

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE

MARYLAND

DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,
LIVE STOCK
and RURAL ECONOMY.



Vol. XX. BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY, 1883. No. 2.

The American Agricultural Association.

During the meeting of the American Agricultural Association, held in Chicago on the 12th December and continued for four days, among the great variety of matters and subjects discussed, and papers on the great interests of Agriculture and importance of legislation in aid of the farmers and to facilitate the prosperity of the many industries of the American people engaged in agricultural pursuits, we have selected for this issue some of the essays or papers read during the meeting, giving them either in their entirety or the subject-matter condensed. We begin with the following, which we give in full, at the urgent solicitation of many of our subscribers.

The Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal.

— BY —

EZRA WHITMAN,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR OF THE MARYLAND
FARMER, BALTIMORE, MD.

In responding to the invitation that I should prepare a paper for this occasion, I have selected as my subject, "The Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal." This topic was suggested because it involves interests of the greatest magnitude to the whole country, and may in the highest sense be said to be a great national work. And although this matter has recently elicited decided consideration by Congress,

yet because so recent, there must be a large proportion of the people residing especially in the Western and Southern States most deeply interested in the vast interests involved, who are unacquainted with the important and startling facts which urge the speedy construction of this great public improvement.

For these and other reasons unnecessary to enumerate, I thought I might be discharging a public duty in disseminating to the extent of my sphere of opportunity, in a brief way, the facts connected with this proposed transportation highway, which is destined to benefit so largely the agricultural and industrial interests of the country at large. Nor do I know why this subject should not be considered entirely pertinent to an occasion like the present.

If you will look at the map of the United States, you will observe what you have doubtless often noticed, a long peninsula lying between the Chesapeake and Delaware bays, and embracing most of the territory of the State of Delaware, and a very considerable portion of that of the State of Maryland. If this tongue of land had never existed, although the country would be to that extent less rich in an important and valuable territorial domain, yet products seeking a foreign market through Chesapeake outlets would have been 200 miles nearer their destination than now. Heretofore, and before the far-reaching facilities of railway transportation made it possible for the distant, interior agricultural and industrial producers to find foreign markets, it made little difference whether the commerce of the Chesapeake and Delaware bays had to go round the peninsula or not by circuitous paths, but since the States of the West, North-west, and even South-west have become the grain produ-

cers to a large extent for foreign markets, it becomes a very serious financial question whether their products shall move by long or short lines to their destination. Now, Chesapeake commerce seeking either the upper Atlantic or foreign ports, must, in getting fairly to sea, wend its circuitous and expensive way down the Chesapeake and around Cape Charles, (which is not always in a friendly humor,) and then up the coast to nearly the starting point, or a distance of 200 miles more than it would have to travel if the peninsula had never existed.

A bill is now under consideration by Congress to construct a free ship canal through this peninsula, connecting the two bays, of sufficient width and depth to accommodate the largest vessels known to commerce. Ten thousand dollars have been appropriated to make preliminary surveys of routes, and upon the reports of the engineers ordered to do this work will Congress it is hoped at its present session base definite action. Sordid and voracious capital has, for some years, seen the rich prize which private enterprise might seize by cutting this water highway and pocketing the tribute which should go to increase the profits of the producer and the wages of the laborer. And at this time the bill alluded to is antagonized by a private corporation, with chartered privileges from Maryland and Delaware which is not anxious to see national proprietorship established over this great work, except, perhaps through its manipulation and plans. But public sentiment will not allow the intervention, much less the obstruction of private enterprise for an instant, to a work of such vast national concern. As well allow a syndicate to place toll gates on our great rivers and lakes, and even on the great seas. Modern monied power is audacious enough to attempt anything which will secure a monopoly, but when it seeks to appropriate those things which by nature or paramount public necessity justly belong to the country, it not only transcends the bounds of prudence and common sense, but places its sordid treasure at hazard. Under such circumstances any number of Constitutional lawyers and political economists of established reputation could be found, who could present conclusive reasons why private enterprise should not be permitted to enjoy privileges acquired by the imposition of unjust and

onerous burthens upon the interests of the country at large. Doubtless Congress will promptly act in a manner that will render it unnecessary for questions of constitutional law to be decided in this case as to the rights of outside parties.

While the syndicate alluded to derived several years ago, charters from the States of Maryland and Delaware to cut a canal through this peninsula, yet both of these States considered the work more properly a national one, and have given their sanction to the bill before Congress, placing the construction and control of that great water highway in charge of the United States Government.

In this age when knowledge "runs to and fro," and the exception is to find a man who is not informed upon all points touching the great interests of the country; it would seem almost intrusive to lengthen this paper with an elaborate argument to convince citizens of the great West, how deeply they are interested in the construction of this ship canal, and yet my task would lack completeness without some detail.

One of the first lessons which our early statesmen learned was the great importance of transportation facilities, not only as a means of material developement and military defence, but for begetting patriotic loyalty and national unity. They saw what their descendants have experienced, that transportation is the element which more than all others combined, determined pretty much all the values of a country, and as a consequence its character and civilization. They saw what we have observed, that transportation determines the value of lands and productions of all kinds, directs the movement of population and creates and distributes the wealth of a country. In short, they saw in transportation the only power which, by its wisely devised highways for inter-State communication and commerce, could blend and identify the various interests of the country, and thus produce that mutual dependence, confidence and unity of feeling which were essential to the proper developement and perpetuity of the new Republic. Accordingly we find all the early Presidents, except perhaps, one, but including Washington and Jefferson, favoring public improvements of this nature by the general Government when devised for the general welfare. And

we find the great Chief Justice Marshall, in one or more celebrated decisions, giving the sanction of his great name to the Constitutional validity of such action. And while bitter controversies have raged as to the powers of the Government in this direction, yet public necessity and true patriotism demanded and obtained the Cumberland and National roads, which, as pioneers in the cause of transportation, have been followed by an offspring whose giant proportions and far-reaching influence make them mere pygmies. And why should not the Government aid in the construction of improvements intended for the general good of the country, or even that of an extensive section? Without transportation, what would our grand domain of prairie, forest and mines be worth? Literally nothing, not a farthing. Supply transportation and you immediately put the life currents in motion, everything is activity, bustle and life, and the veins and arteries of commerce thrill with the flow of material wealth, which, having in its production, fed, and clothed, and sheltered the sturdy and happy son of toil, enriches and makes glad all that handle it afterwards, and what left its home in a crude and often unsightly state, through the manipulation of the skillful artizan becomes a "thing of beauty" in the homes of the lowly as well as the opulent, as a standing monument to the power and beneficence of transportation.

But transportation, to be valuable, must not be trammelled with unjust burthens which mortgage the industries with a tax which oppresses enterprise and labor. It should be satisfied with a reasonable return in the shape of dividends, and leave the remainder to build up and bless the country and the producer. It is possible for a country teeming with material wealth, to have transportation facilities most complete and yet not prosper, because of the sordid and selfish greed of those who owned and controlled the carrying highways. This is a spectacle not by any means rare. This should not, nor need be the case. The God of the rich domain of varied resources of land and sea for the use of man, never intended that he should be cheated out of its enjoyment by either the audacious or grasping power of monied monopolies, and against such, already enthroned and entrenched, all other defences failing, public sentiment would control them by

the "higher law," which outraged and oppressed industries would know how to apply. But the remedy against this usurpation is two-fold. One in prudently conferring charter privileges, and the other, and most efficient, that of competition. Plainly it is for the general good that transportation competition should be encouraged in every direction. It is good for the legitimate recompense of labor and capital, and therefore for the building up of general and not partial prosperity; and it promotes, as nothing else will, that inter-communication of peoples, interchange of views, and intermarriage of different blood, which produces a generous rivalry, cements and extends friendships and insures national unity and greatness. Transportation companies may suffer more or less by competition, and in some cases may have their ambition and resources considerably modified. The shorter lines and easier grades of the more recent construction may circumvent the older highways of less progressive surroundings, but this need not affect the public interests, which when necessity and self-protection demand, can always manage to construct the shortest lines to market.

What I have said has an important bearing upon the proposition which I now suggest, which is, that Baltimore is considerably the nearest of all Atlantic ports to foreign markets, by an average of not less than one hundred miles for all the grain interior entrepots of the States of the West, North-west and South-west, besides a large proportion of the Middle; and with the construction of the ship canal proposed will hold supremacy as a short line, which will force the products of pretty much all that vast producing domain into that then most attractive artery of transportation, of which she will form an important Atlantic terminus, for the completion of the canal makes her strictly an Atlantic port and brings her 200 miles nearer the European terminus than at present. Now, while it makes no difference to the country whether Baltimore occupies this favored position or not, and I only mention this in passing, yet it is a matter of most vital importance to the producer of the great West, &c., &c., that he will by this short line enjoy a saving of transportation expenses both in time and money, of such magnitude. And whether other lines will be able or not to offer counterbalancing compensation, it is

to the interests of the country to construct the canal as a standing competitor for all future time. The late census states that the great States which we claim are directly and indirectly benefitted by this canal, embrace an acreage of 150,000,000 and a population of not less than 20,000,000, and produce of wheat, 203,555,981 bushels; of corn 1,078,266,684 bushels; of oats 214,824,800 bushels, and of barley 15,788,246 bushels. If you add to this that portion of the cotton and other crops, besides the great industries of the section alluded to, you have in a nut shell, the people, States and industries which are vitally interested in the "Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal," as a means for transportation. At the expense of tediousness I might present a calculation, showing what the possible saving in money would be to the producer and shipper, but this is unnecessary. The figures of production are so large that it must be apparent to all at a glance, that the saving in transportation will be equally enormous, and sufficient in a very few years, at the present rate of production, to liquidate every cent of the eight or ten millions which it will perhaps cost to construct and maintain the canal. But when you contemplate the necessities and productive developments of the future, the value of the canal as a highway of commerce is simply astounding.

The value then of this work to the country at large being determined, there is no want of precedents to establish the right and duty of the United States Government to construct the improvement.

Notwithstanding the heated discussions in the past, between those progressive statesmen, who believed mere fruitless abstractions should yield to the march of material development, and the strict constructionist, who would sacrifice everything to prove that the Federal government had no force—public necessity has demanded and obtained Government aid from time to time, until the military necessities of the late war broke down all the arguments and entrenchments of the obstructionists, and now it would be difficult to find a public man who would dare deny the right of the United States to construct and maintain transportation highways necessary for the public welfare. For military defence and postal accommodation, the government has found authority for aiding and constructing

numerous and costly improvements. She has expended hundreds of millions in subsidies, and grants for railway enterprise intended to connect the two oceans and to facilitate inter-State, coastwise and foreign commerce. She very properly takes charge of the harbors and spends large sums in deepening them and removing obstructions from the river highways. She constructs breakwaters and lighthouses for refuge and guidance to vessels. She has appropriated liberally for the improvement of the Mississippi river. She has purchased the cut off canal at Louisville, Ky., in the interest of general internal commerce. Here in your own great West she has built the Des Moines canal and expended about \$2,000,000 upon it. She aided by a land grant of 750,000 acres, in the construction of the St. Mary's Falls canal, in the State of Michigan, besides an expenditure of about \$1,700,000 and now owns and maintains it for free public use.

In view of the previous action of the Government with reference to transportation improvements, surely a route shortening the travel of commerce 200 miles should not be ignored, but should be regarded as entitled to the highest consideration as a public and even a national necessity.

Does it not seem plain then, that the "Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal" embraces all the elements which urge that the Government should construct it for the general welfare? It can claim to benefit largely the general welfare, increase incalculably the facilities of commerce, furnish greater means for military defence and decrease in a large degree, to an extensive area in this country, the transportation tax upon its productions. Therefore I think this subject of sufficient importance to make it our duty to strengthen the hands of Congress, by taking speedy and favorable action with reference to the early construction of this canal.

Hence I beg leave to offer the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States, in obedience to, and out of respect for public sentiment, representing a large and important section of the country, has made an appropriation for making surveys to determine the practicability of a free ship canal across the Maryland and Delaware peninsula, and

WHEREAS, the engineers making the said survey have reported it to be entirely feasible to construct such work at a saving in distance of 200 miles to ships starting from Chesapeake ports, now therefore be it

Resolved, by this body, "The American Agricultural Association," that it believes the construction of the proposed canal to be of the highest importance to the commerce of the country, and consider it the duty of Congress to pass a bill providing for its speedy completion.

These resolutions were referred to the standing Committee on Resolutions, and the committee reported on the proposed Maryland and Delaware Ship Canal, that while the work was of great importance they did not deem it advisable to recommend a special appropriation for a specific work. But the Committee recommended that the resolution favoring the construction by the general government, of waterways between the Mississippi and the Atlantic ports be adopted. This recommendation was adopted.

An able paper full of interesting statistics on "Sheep Husbandry in the United States," was read by the Hon. J. C. Stevens, of Ohio. Of the 600,000,000 sheep of the world, the United States claimed between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000, the annual produce of which was nearly 300,000,000 pounds of wool of a quality unsurpassed in the world. The growth of sheep interests in this country was marvelous. In 1860, the number of sheep increased from 23,000,000 to 50,000,000 in 1881. The wool clip had during that time increased from 60,000,000 to more than 300,000,000 pounds. In estimating the advantages of sheep husbandry, one must not lose sight of the fact that it was the foundation of nearly every other industry, giving employment to between 400,000 and 500,000 herders and flock-masters, and making it possible for the establishment of 2,684 woolen mills in the United States in 1880, with a capital of \$158,644,270, employing 160,998 hands, paying \$47,180,168 in wages. Notwithstanding our great progress we as yet produced only three-fourths of the wool necessary for our home consumption, besides importing about one-third of all the woolen goods used in this country. Until the enactment of the wool tariff in 1867, our wool markets were overstocked by ruinous importations of wool

and woolen goods from countries where it was produced on low-priced lands, light taxes, low rate of interest on capital and pauper labor. Sheep, to-day, could be kept in Australia and the South American States the year round, with little or no grain, for about forty cents, and the wools placed on our market in competition with our own at from 11 to 20 cents per pound. This being the case where was the statesman who would deluge the country with those cheap wools at the risk of annihilating this industry in this country? The better policy was to continue to encourage the growth of wool and manufacture of woolen goods by a wise and liberal tariff, until sheep had increased in such numbers over all the South, South-western and Western States and Territories as to afford ample material for the clothing of our people.

The next paper was read by Mr. F. D. Coburn, of Kansas, on "The Hog, with a Streak of Lean and a Streak of Fat."

Statistics from the late census reports were quoted to show the magnitude of hog breeding in this country. In 1880, there were of all ages 47,683,951 head, worth at \$5 each, about \$228,419,455. Mr. Coburn's opinion on the superiority of hog raising, over either beef or sheep is summed up in the following extract from his paper:

The hog eats what is placed before him and never complains of the cooking, nor grumbles if his sleeping room is not dusted. He never gossips nor uses tobacco in any form; he puts up with the worst accommodations and behaves best when well corned. His habits are natural, though he never runs in debt to the tailor, and though he knows nothing of mathematics he has no superior in square root. He hates clubs, and never keeps his wife awake nights by snoring. He belongs to a literary family, and though he never writes, is the acknowledged knight of the pen.

He is found to yield a pound of produce from less food than either cattle or sheep, and is, therefore, the most economical machine to manufacture our corn crop into marketable meat. Our people are becoming wiser every year, and exporting less proportionately of the raw material, and more of condensed product. If it takes seven pounds of corn, on an average, to

make a pound of pork, as is no doubt the case, the farmer begins to see the great economy of exporting one pound of pork, bacon or lard, instead of seven pounds of corn. The difference in cost of freight makes a fine profit of itself; besides the pound of meat is usually worth more than seven pounds of corn in the foreign market. Pork carries off less of the valuable constituents of the soil than beef. The fat pig contains only three-fourths as much mineral matter per hundred weight as the steer, and only two-fifths as much nitrogen per hundred weight, and therefore the production of a ton of pork on the farm will carry off only a little more than half the fertility carried off by a ton of beef; besides a ton of beef will require nearly fifty per centum more to produce it.

Mr. J. P. Allen, of Nebraska, delivered an address upon "The Meat Resources of Nebraska."

Mr. Allen said that Nebraska had this year grown 80,000,000 bushels of corn, nearly all of which had been fed to cattle sent to Chicago and Eastern points. This year, 90,000 steers had been sent, continued the speaker, to eastern markets, while there still remained 300,000 head upon the grazing lands of western Nebraska. Continuing, he said, the price of meat in eastern markets was not regulated by the cost of raising and breeding, but was regulated by the demand, as in all other productive industries. Sheep and pork raising had been during the past year, most encouraging in its results.

ENSILAGE & ND SILOS.

Mr. J. T. Allen, of Nebraska, told the story of a Platte Valley farmer, who utilized an old unoccupied cellar by filling it with green corn stalks and converted it into ensilage. He noticed an immediate improvement in the quantity and quality of the milk of his cows, and all the stock on his farm ate it with avidity.

Mr. Budlong, of Rockford, called upon President Sprague to address the convention upon the subject. The gentleman consented and related some of his early farming experiences. When he read a copy of Goffart's work on ensilage, he could not bring himself to believe all that was stated therein. He then made a tour of various portions of the country, visiting

silos wherever found, and met with such gratifying results that he returned to his home determined to build a silo upon at least one of his farms. In order that the first attempt might in no wise be a failure, he built a silo of more elaborate detail and greater cost than was really necessary. The structure of this silo was described. All that was necessary in building a silo, was to perfectly guard against water, frost, and air. The speaker next described how he grew his corn for ensilage—twenty-five kernels to the foot, and in rows three feet apart—and how he stored it away in a silo. His stock was as anxious to get this ensilage as a spoiled child is to get a coveted toy. He always fed meal with ensilage, for the reason that he believed that stock should not be confined entirely to one class of food. Sometimes he placed the meal in the middle of the ensilage and the cattle invariably ate all around the meal and down below it, eating it last. His father thought he was doing well when he was able to keep one cow over winter, on an acre of land; the son, with less ability every way than the father, was able to keep no less than seven head of cattle upon a single acre of land, and it was no more than any of his hearers could do if they tried. He argued that hay should be converted into ensilage; that four-fifths of its nutrient was wasted in the drying process. Ensilage made it possible for the farmer to place it before his stock at all times of the year, in as nearly its natural condition as it was possible to get it.

Several delegates present had questions to ask concerning the details of the method adopted by Mr. Sprague, and he was kept busy answering questions. In the course of these responses he stated that in his portion of the country, (Vermont,) about \$20 was the cost of keeping a cow over winter. With the ensilage process he had kept cows for \$6 and \$7 each. The cattle with this green food required much less water than usual.

A gentleman from Missouri asked how ensilage agreed with horses. The President said he had hoped that question would have been passed; he had heard of people who had lost their horses by feeding it. Another member answered very emphatically that it was safe to feed it to horses.

As we find room we shall give other im-

portant items of the proceedings of this national convention of the farmers of the United States.

Green Manuring.

The following is taken from a recent report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, of the State of Georgia, and applies so well to other Southern and Middle States, that we heartily commend these views to the consideration of our readers, in the hope that such practical suggestions will be extensively put into practice this year at the proper time.

"The hope of Georgia rests in the restoration of the productive capacity of her worn soils, by some means so cheap as to be within the reach of the humblest landholder. The teachings of science and the experience of the cultivators of the soil for nineteen centuries, point to the use of leguminous plants as the surest and cheapest means of restoring worn soils to the condition of profitable productiveness. In more northern latitudes the farmer feels assured of the restoration of his soil when a crop of clover is secured. We have the field pea with which we commence lower down in the scale than those who depend upon clover, from the fact that peas will grow well upon soils which have neither the character nor the quality to produce clover at all.

"Let every farmer in Georgia determine to adopt as part of his rotation of crops, the largest possible area in peas, following small grain for soil improvement. Let him, each fall, carefully harvest and set aside enough seed peas to sow the area devoted to small grain. The general adoption of this system would quadruple the production of the State in less than ten years. Experience teaches that it matters not whether the pea vines are turned in in a green state, or left to decay upon the surface of the ground, so that no one need be deterred from adopting this means of soil improvement on account of the cost or difficulty of plowing in the vines."

Try Kendall's Spavin Cure, a sure remedy for spavins, curbs, ringbones, or any enlargement of the joints. See advertisement.

Farm Work for February.

This month the weather is very variable as a rule. Some years, we have a cold, wet February, and some years, the weather is so favorable that much out-door work can be done, and we are tempted to go ahead as if Spring had come. It is impossible to know what this year, the month will prove to be, therefore any suggestions we make are of course subject to the state of the weather and condition of the land, which leaves it to the sound discretion of the reader, to act in accordance with them, or postpone certain operations as suggested, to a favorable time.

The hints we gave last month, as to the care of stock of all kinds, getting wood, timber, and fencing; securing ice, &c., are applicable to this month and need not be recapitulated now. We would only say in addition, take care of the working oxen. Have them fed well and carded and comfortably sheltered, and you will only need half the number to do the work. Feed them not corn in the ear, but crushed corn and cob, or meal and bran, or fodder cut up and mixed with meal. Roots, such as turnips, or beets, &c., occasionally, would be of great service, if you have not a sufficient supply to furnish them with half a bushel sliced or chopt fine, once a day. Remember too that one feed of oil-cake and meal daily alternated with their regular meals, is highly nutritious, fat forming food for beefeves and mutton sheep.

Oil Cake.

Oil cake, *i. e.*, linseed cake or cotton oil-cake, ought to be had by every farmer. Either one more than pays twice over its cost, whether the production of milk, fat, thriftiness, or health, of our various domestic animals be the object aimed at. Once was the time, in ante-bellum days, the cotton seed was deemed injurious to animals and hence was carefully fenced against being used by the stock, and was either burned or thrown into running streams to be got rid of as the careful farmer now does with cockle or cheat. Now, the seed is more valuable than the lint of this wonderful Southern blessing to the human race. Delicious oil is extracted from the cotton seed for cooking purposes, said to be superior to hogs' lard, and rivals for salads the famed but costly Lucca oils of southern Italy. The refuse or expressed cake, is not only found to be healthy, but wonderful in the production of fat and flesh, while it gives brightness to the coats and softness to the touch of animals, besides

contributing to their health and comfort. The seed or the cake after the oil has been extracted has been found to be also a great renovator of the soil to which it has been applied, and furnishes a rich plant food by all who have thus utilized it. Do not then be chary in expending money for this great animal food, plant food and general benefactor to man, surpassing even the benefits that its lint has conferred on the human family through the ingenuity of man in adapting it to the coarse as well as fine fabrics made for clothing and indeed nearly all domestic uses.

Plaster.

We esteem this the best time of the year to apply plaster to young clover and grain crops. If salt be mixed with it, say three bushels of salt to one of planter, would be still better.

Plowing.

Plow all stiff places in the fields intended for culture the coming season. Plow deep, and if the land is disposed to retain water, near the surface, subsoil if you cannot afford to under-drain. We believe it is no longer doubted by intelligent farmers that deep, loose soils retain moisture, and that highly enriched soils deeply plowed, with frequent cultivation of the growing crops, resist droughts and ameliorate, if not overcome, their baleful influences.

Oats.

The oat crop should be sown at the earliest moment the ground is in proper state to be plowed. Manure well, put the seed in with a small plow, three inches deep, sow clover seed, harrow it in with a light harrow, and you may expect a remunerative crop. No crop requires early seeding more than the oat. The practice of late sowing and slovenly preparation of perhaps poor land not manured, necessarily results in the failure of this crop, and it is denounced as a poor crop to grow, while if the farmer had done his work properly and at the right time, his crop would have satisfied him. But we are slow to blame ourselves for failures in crops, it is always set down to "the seasons, or *our bad luck.*" Take time by the foretop farmers, and sow your oats at the first moment possible, and not put it off until you are busy, or ought to be, in preparing your corn land and other pressing spring work in April or May, when it may be too wet to sow or plow.

Tobacco.

Hasten the stripping of your tobacco, in all fit seasons for such work. Should a good time, as is often the case this month, sow a large portion of your tobacco seed. Early sown beds produce

plants with bunchy roots, that are tough and will "stand" better than tender plants from late sown beds. For the inexperienced we give our views as how to make a bed. The soil should be rather light with a plenty of virgin mould on it. Select if you can, a hill side with a gentle elevation, facing the South or Southeast, protected by woods on the North and West. Where the hickory or walnut has grown, and where there is plenty of dogwood under growth, is deemed the most favorable soil for plants. Clean off the bushes and rake off the leaves, or burn them, then grub the stumps and larger roots. Rake off the coarse mould, and the half decayed leaves. Dig up with sharp hillling hoes and chop back. Rake well and get out the roots. Then chop cross wise and rake again. Sow at the rate of 200 lbs. guano to the acre, chop this in lightly and rake until the bed is in fine tilth and level. Then sow 300 or 400 lbs. more of guano to the acre, thus allowing at the rate of 500 or 600 lbs. per acre. Rake it in lightly, sow the seed mixed in plaster or dry ashes, enough to sow over the bed lightly twice. Then tramp or roll with a heavy hand roller. Tramping is best we think. Sow plaster over the bed, enough to make it look whitish. Cover with pine or open brush, thick enough to conceal the ground, yet let in the sun's rays. We have known beds made on a good soil, for years in succession, by covering them up, after the beds were done with, in well-rotted manure and straw, to keep down all grass and weeds.

Some planters take the straw off in December and make shelter for sheep, feeding them on the bed with blade fodder and grain, until the ground was wanted for sowing. In this way old beds are kept up and saves cutting down woods for new ones. This latter plan is a most excellent one. It is best to sow a plenty of seed in the bed, for the fly is very destructive, and have beds in different parts of the farm, for the fly will sometimes attack one bed and not another.

Sheep and Lambs.

That excellent newspaper, the *Massachusetts Ploughman*, says:

"The farmer who raises early lambs for market should provide the best of quarters for his sheep. While they should have a warm building, well lighted and ventilated, he should also have a sheltered yard where the sheep can enjoy the open air in fair weather. When the lambs come they should be provided with a place of suitable size where they can enter at will, without being followed by the sheep; here the lambs should be

fed with all the meal they will eat up clean, for early lambs for market must be made to grow as fast as possible. Raising early lambs, by those who understand it, is a very profitable business, if the dogs do not interfere."

Garden Work for February.

As it is not probable that any work in the vegetable garden will be done this month in the Middle States at least, except attention to the forcing bed and cold frames, we ask attention to the following suggestions given by the Messrs. Landreth, than whom there is no better authority:

How should a Family Kitchen Garden be Constructed.

The old style of garden, laid out in squares to be dug and cultivated exclusively by hand, is becoming a thing of the past. The truck patch is now laid out in parallel rows or drills, ranging from two to three feet apart, and the cultivation in the greater part done by horse power. The sight should be the best obtainable with reference to soil. The sight should be the topographical features. The area should be large, and everything done upon liberal and practical principles. The seeds should be all sown in drills or rows so as to be adapted to horse culture—hand labor is the dearest of all, and should be avoided. The land, if circumstances will permit, should not be of a less length than seventy-five yards, and may with advantage be extended to two-hundred, according to the quantity of vegetables required. Long lands, where animal power is used, are much to be preferred to short fields, as much time is saved in turning; for example, a plow team in a journey of eight hours, plowing land seventy-eight yards long, spends four hours and thirty-nine minutes on the headlands, whereas, were the furrows two hundred and seventy-yards long, the time spent in turning would be but one hour and nineteen minutes. The tillage of the garden should be with the approved labor-saving implements—wheel-hoes for hand use, scarifiers and cultivators for horse; the seeds should be sown with hand drills, and fertilizers of the guano class applied with similar apparatus, and thus without interfering with the labor of the farm, be made to yield vegetables in profusion, when if the spade and hoe be relied on they are produced in stinted quantity.

The amateur gardener, and the expert as well should make out a list of the varieties of vegetables he desires to have, and then lay off on

paper a diagram of his garden, assigning certain rows to each sort. He can then readily calculate by reference to the following table the amount of seed he will require: Quantity of each kind of vegetable seed to sow upon 100 yards of single row: Asparagus, 8 ounces; beans, Bush, 3 quarts; beans, Lima, 3 pints; beans, pole, 1 pint; beet, 4 ounces; broccoli, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; Brussels sprouts, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; cabbage 1 ounce; carrot 3 ounces, cauliflower $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, celery 3 ounces, collards $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, corn 1 pint, cress 4 ounces, cucumber 4 ounces, egg plant $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, endive 2 ounces, leek 2 ounces, lettuce 2 ounces, water-melon 3 ounces, citron-melon 1 ounce, mustard 4 ounces, okra 12 ounces, onion 2 ounces for large bulbs, onion 6 ounces for sets, parsley 2 ounces, peas 3 quarts, pepper $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, pumpkin 2 ounces, radish 6 ounces, rhubarb 4 ounces, sal-sify 4 ounces, spinach 6 ounces, squash 3 ounces, tomato 1 ounce, turnips 3 ounces. The thoughtful cultivator will provide himself with a surplus quantity of the seeds he designs to plant, to hold as a reserve for replantings, as dry weather, beating rains, and insect depredations often destroy the first sowings.—*Landreth's Rural Register and Almanac for 1883.*

For Farm Boys to Learn.

From a western paper we extract the following practical remarks; they will be very useful to every one on a farm. There are 160 square rods in an acre, and there are 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ square yards in one rod. This gives 4,840 square yards in one acre.

5 yards wide by 968 yards long is 1 acre.
10 yards wide by 484 yards long is 1 acre.
20 yards wide by 242 yards long is 1 acre.
40 yards wide by 121 yards long is 1 acre.
80 yards wide by 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards long is 1 acre.
70 yards wide by 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards long is 1 acre.
60 yards wide by 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards long is 1 acre.

Again, allowing nine square feet to the yard, 272 $\frac{1}{4}$ square feet to the rod, 43,560 square feet to the acre, and we have another table:

110 feet by 369 feet—1 acre.
120 feet by 363 feet—1 acre.
220 feet by 198 feet—1 acre.
240 feet by 181 $\frac{1}{8}$ feet—I acre.
440 feet by 90 feet—1 acre.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.—My wife said I was a fool when I brought home a bottle of Parker's Ginger Tonic. But when it broke up my cough, drove away her neuralgia and cured baby's dysentery, she thought I had made a good investment.—N. Y. Tailor.

HORTICULTURAL.

Parsnips.

One of the greatest pleasures the proprietor of a garden has, is the satisfaction of knowing that he has at his command an abundant and varied supply of vegetables at all seasons of the year. In the summer he has an extensive list to choose from, but in the winter and early spring months his choice is confined to a limited number of varieties, and on this account these crops should be of the very first quality. To obtain this desired object it is absolutely necessary to give the crops during their season of growth, every essential attention.

The parsnip is one of the most desirable as well as the most wholesome of winter and spring vegetables, and should be cultivated in all gardens, however small. It flourishes best, and produces the largest, longest and smoothest roots when grown quickly in a very rich, deep soil, for, if fresh manure is given, the roots will become forked; or, if the seeds are sown in a shallow or poor soil, the roots will be of small size, tough, forked, and almost worthless.

The best and easiest method of obtaining a satisfactory crop is to prepare the ground thoroughly the previous season. This should be done by plowing or digging the ground very deep, and at the same time working in an abundance of decomposed stable manure, in which a quantity of bone dust has been mixed. If at all possible, let the ground be thrown up in ridges throughout the winter, and as soon as the ground is in working condition in the spring, a good sprinkling of guano should be given, the ground neatly leveled, and the seed sown in drills from eighteen inches to two feet apart. The seed should be covered to the depths of three-quarters of an inch, and as soon as the young plants are from three to four inches in height, they should be thinned out to a distance of six or eight inches apart. All the care and attention they require after this is to be well cultivated and kept free from weeds at all times.

The roots are perfectly hardy and are very much improved by leaving them in the ground during the winter, care being

taken to bring enough in the cellar to last during the cold weather. The roots require to be covered with sand when placed in the cellar, thus preventing them from becoming dry. One ounce of seed will sow about one hundred and fifty feet of row, and as the seed is thin and scale-like, it will not retain its vitality for over a year.

—*American Gardener.*

The Value of Sods.

The Indiana *Farmer* says:—Sods are the cream of the soil, containing the very elements of plant food that make soil so productive.

“When properly rotted this material makes one of the best invigorators to be found for trees, vines, vegetables and cereals, and is one of the most readily and cheaply obtained fertilizers in use. Sods may be gathered from the fence corners of tilled fields, gathered from the surface after plowing and harrowing sward land, and in many places from the roadside when the highway is undergoing repairs.

“To utilize sods and secure from them their best fertilizing effects, they should be gathered and piled up in some out of the way place, and the whole covered with ashes or chip dust, or both, to keep the grass from growing. A year or two will be required for them to thoroughly decay unless cut down and shoveled over after laying long enough for the grass to be entirely killed out. Water should be applied at intervals, sufficient to keep the pile moist and prevent a dry mouldy rot. The best way to provide for the wetting down is, to leave the top cupping and apply the water abundantly there in a dry time. To get such a lot of good material in the best shape for applying to crops, we would advise mixing it with good, well rotted barnyard manure. Say about two loads of it to one of the manure, then spread it broadcast on grass and crops of small grain. For corn or vegetables, apply it in the hills or drills.

Akron, Ohio, May 7th, 1880.—Some three years ago I had a horse become very lame from a spavin. I treated it with Kendall's Spavin Cure with marked success. Since then I have sold a great many bottles, and have heard of cures resulting from its use, I am frank to say I can cheerfully recommend it as honest remedy.

Yours truly, A. M. ARMSTRONG.

The Value of Willow Wood.

On account of its comparative incombustibility, the willow is eminently useful for the floors of buildings designed to be fire-proof. It grows to a large size and furnishes a great amount of lumber. There is a white willow growing at Stockbridge, Mass., which, at four feet from the ground, measures twenty-two feet in circumference and extends its branches fifty feet in every direction. Tradition says it was brought from Connecticut in 1807 by a traveller, who used it as a riding switch. The Hon. Jesse W. Fell, in giving an account of experiments in tree-planting on an extensive scale in Illinois, says: "Were I called upon to designate one tree which, more than all others, I would recommend for general planting, I would say unhesitatingly it should be the white willow." Professor Brewer says: "In England, where it is often sixty or seventy feet high in twenty years, there is no wood in greater demand than good willow. It is light, very tough, soft, takes a good finish, will bear more pounding and knocks than any other wood grown there, and hence is used for cricket bats, for floats to paddle wheels of steamers, and brake-blocks on cars. It is used extensively for turning planking, coasting vessels' furniture, ox yokes, wooden legs, shoe lasts," etc. Fuller says: "It groweth incredibly fast, it being a by-word that the profit by willows will buy the owner a horse before that by other trees will pay for a saddle." The basket willow, well cultivated, will yield a net income of \$150 a year to the acre. On the whole, therefore, it would seem that the various kinds of willow, the economic value of which has been hitherto entirely overlooked in our country, are eminently deserving of attention, and will amply reward those who cultivate them.—*The Popular Science Monthly.*

LIEBIG Co.'s COCA BEEF TONIC.—"Gives more tone than anything I have ever used or prescribed," says Professor H. Goulen, M. D., Physician to the Grand Duke of Saxony, Knight of the Iron Cross, etc. "The effect of the Coca border upon the marvellous, and if not clearly authenticated by scientists of undoubted veracity would be altogether beyond belief," says Dr. Wm. S. Searle. Invaluable in head affections, weakened memory, dizziness, determination of blood to the head, sick and nervous headache. Also highly beneficial in palpitation of the heart and other forms of heart disease, dyspepsia, monthly suffering and biliousness. Beware of worthless imitations.

Potatoes.

Potato growing has been the object of a curious experiment just completed in England. A pound of early potatoes was taken and allowed to sprout freely. From each potato a sprout was broken, and potatoes and sprouts were planted in separate rows. Both grew well and the following is the result of the experiment. From the sprouts which weighed, in all, half an ounce, five pounds and five ounces of sound potatoes have been obtained, and from the pound of potatoes, five pounds four ounces showing a slight balance in favor of the sprouts. The sprout potatoes were the more regular in shape and the earlier in growth.

AFTER potatoes are eight inches high no more hillng should be done, as this causes new tuber roots to start, then two or three crops of potatoes are produced of small size. The soil should be loosened between the hills, however, which will prove advantageous.

CLOVER—A valuable property of clover is that of supplying humus or decomposing organic matters to the soil. Humus imparts to the soil the power to absorb heat and moisture and to retain them. It is also the medium by means of which, to a great extent, atmospheric elements penetrate the soil, and under favorable conditions form combinations with inorganic matters. A single clover crop will supply more humus than a liberal application of barnyard manure.

A WELL KNOWN English farmer "Smith, of Woolston," remarks that top-dressing and harrowing in grass seeds will "fetch a reduced pasture round," without inverting the surface. The plow is often quite otherwise than an improver and conservator of the soil.

The St. Louis *Republican*, from considerable data which it regards as reliable, estimates this year's cotton crop at 7,000,000 bales, against 6,436,000 last year, and 6,589,000 bales the year before. The largest crop raised before the war was that of 1859-60—4,861,000 bales. The work of picking is going actively forward, but there is a scarcity of hands.

Large Yields of Corn.

Professor Beal of the Agricultural College, Lansing, Michigan, says:—

"A hundred bushels of corn to the acre was thought incredible, but now it is nothing extraordinary. During the past summer, on Long Island, on the farm belonging to the editor of the *Rural New Yorker*, a field of four acres averaged 113.69 bushels of shelled corn per acre. The largest yield of any one acre was 159.69 bushels of shelled corn. The variety is known as the Chester county Mammoth. Another field of about seven-eighths of an acre of Blount corn yielded at the rate of 134.44 bushels of shelled corn per acre. E. F. Bowditch, Farmingham, Mass., the past season had a field of 15½ acres which yielded on the average of 109½ bushels of shelled corn of prime quality per acre. The cost per bushel of ears was 16 cents. The largest yield on one acre, to my knowledge, is that of Dr. Parker, of South Carolina. The yield was two hundred bushels and two quarts of shelled corn per acre. The land was underdrained, highly manured, highly cultivated, closely planted and irrigated."

[The Massachusetts *Ploughman* says, Mr. E. E. Ellms, of Cohasset, Mass., raised the past season corn, after being dried well in field and crib, at the rate of 132 bushels of shelled corn and 5,200 pounds of fodder per acre. But Maryland is yet ahead of all corn producing sections. We have in our possession a fine specimen ear of corn from the crop grown by young Mr. Harp, of Washington county, Md. Mr. Harp took the "Newcomer Prize" of \$100 in gold, for the largest crop of corn grown in that county by a boy. The product was 47 bushels on one-fourth of an acre, equal to 188 bushels per acre, or 37½ barrels per acre! Who can beat it next year?]

According to the estimate of the Department of Agriculture, the crop of Indian corn in the Republic this year will average close to twenty-five bushels per acre, which is under a medium yield. The aggregate crop is given at one billion six hundred

and eighty millions of bushels. These statements which are from official sources, are compiled from the reports and estimates of reliable correspondents of the Department all over the country, and will serve perhaps in some degree to explain the speculative advance in the prices of grain at Chicago and other Western grain markets some time since. The corn crop is in all respects by far the greatest and most thoroughly national of all the agricultural products of the country. Indian corn is raised in every State and Territory.

Onions for Insomnia.

I venture to suggest a new but simple remedy for want of sleep, says a man who has had experience. Opiates, in any form, even the *liquor opii sedat* and chloroform, will leave traces of their influence next morning. I, therefore, prescribe for myself—and have frequently done so for others—onions; simply common onions, raw, but Spanish onions stewed will do. All know the taste of onions; this is due to a peculiar essential oil contained in this most valuable and healthy root. The oil has, I am sure, highly soporific powers. In my own case they never fail. If I am much pressed with work and feel that I shall not sleep, I eat two or three small onions, and the effect is magical. Onions are also excellent things to eat when much exposed to intense cold. Finally, if a person cannot sleep, it is because the blood is in the brain, and not in the stomach. The remedy, therefore, is obvious. Call the blood down from the brain to the stomach. This is to be done by eating a biscuit, a hard-boiled egg, a bit of bread and cheese, or something. Follow this up with a glass of milk, or even water, and you will fall asleep, and will, I trust, bless the name of the writer. Jacksonville, Florida, Dispatch.

TREE SEEDS.—Charles Aldrich, urging the collection and planting of seeds of forest trees, makes the statement that such a start with maple will give fuel in ten years, and black walnut, saw logs in two decades, the market value of which will be "far above any reasonable estimate at this time."

The delicate, flowery and lasting fragrance of Floreston Cologne explain why it is such a favorite with the ladies.

Home-made Superphosphates.

To make superphosphate on the premises, the following receipt is given as excellent, and within the range of almost every farmer—Take 100 pounds of ground bone, place it in a large tub, and apply 40 pounds of sulphuric acid, adding water as desired. In a few days the whole mass will be reduced to the consistency of a thick jelly. Then add more water and about 300 pounds of plaster as a drier, the whole being worked and shoveled over until it can be readily handled. There will then be sufficient phosphate to apply to about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land at a cost of about \$7.50.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Curiosities in Recent Inventions.

BY OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.

It is a well established fact that Americans are the most inventive of any people. A writer says, somewhat boldly, that every American is an inventor, and exhibits his natural traits in inventing little devices about his home or business, continually. Certainly the grist of patents which is issued each week show that a great many people are doing their own thinking about the affairs of this life, and are adding improvements to the general fund of things made for the convenience, comfort and pleasure of all. But one of the remarks continually heard is, "Its a wonder that was not thought of before," or "I thought of that myself but forgot it," showing that while many inventions come to Washington for patents, many more without doubt are lying dormant, waiting for a resolution to put them through or for money to spare for the purpose. To show a few of the curious inventions of this week, will no doubt call for the usual expressions quoted above. For instance, take this hay fork, the improvement upon which consists in adding two prongs above the lower forks to hold the hay in place. How simple! and yet its usefulness is apparent, and it has no doubt occurred to many persons before the inventor secured his patent. A horse breaking or educating device consists of boots encircling the fore legs near the knee, to which a strap is attached passing through a pulley to the pole. The driver

has the movement of the horse's forelegs under control by this means, and it is claimed that the animal "gives it up" at once. Another patent is a horse-collar with hollow pads adapted to be filled with compressed air to form an elastic or yielding cushion. Do not these simple improvements illustrate our idea further? A very complicated affair will interest the wakeful. It is known as a metamorphic attachment to a bedstead by means of which sleep is promoted, an electric current serving as a soothing potion. The combination of a rake and plow forms a design for which a patent is given. The rake attachment is for removing vines, &c., from the track of the plow. It is operated, raised and lowered, by rotating the crank arms. The last of the patents to be mentioned is a method for "shingling" hay stacks; a fibrous thatching is thrown over the top and serves as a protector. It is claimed to be very cheap and practically indispensable.

Among the singular and interesting inventions for which patents have been granted lately, are the following: A wheel barrow, with curved legs, the extension of which constitutes braces for the tray; that is, instead of having two legs, a double half-wheel answers for both legs and body frame. This is a very simple device but it has taken a long time to think it out. A brake for a wagon which permits the fore and hind wheels to be locked separately or jointly is patented. Also a slide bar attached to a swingle tree by working which the trees to a vehicle may be thrown off by the driver so that a run a-way horse may go off on his own account leaving the carriage behind. A patent is granted for a fruit and produce railway car, having wire cloth ventilators at the floor, roof and sides. It is designed to keep products fresh while in transit. Since the outrage to the remains of the late A. T. Stewart of New York, much ingenuity has been displayed in inventing burglar proof grave vaults. One issued to day provides for anchor bolts passing laterally through the outer box into the earth and finally fastened above and below. An ingenious devise is an improvement to an ordinary broom-handle, which is made to screw into a pocket set into the head of the broom; a broken handle may thus be replaced by another. A New York inventor draws a prize in the shape of a patent for fastening

down bed clothes : a clip is attached to the mattress or bedstead provided with a clamp to grasp the clothes and hang on to them. A patent for a process of making artificial butter by mixing oils derived from animal fats, sweet cream and vegetable oils and coloring matter together, was granted. These ingredients mixed together, sour, the whey is then removed and the mass churned. New York people may thus get Orange county creamery products. For housewives a kitchen cabinet is invented. It is a cupboard with table attachment, drawers for dishes, flour bin and other conveniences combined. Among the intricate inventions is a harvester and grain binder upon which the office allows 37 new claims. The main idea is in the operation of a series of rakes by flexible carriers, by means of which they are moved forward of the cutter bar and downward into the standing grain.

THE manufacture of agriculture implements has been the subject of government inquiry and census. The figures given show a remarkable increase. In the United States there are nineteen hundred and forty-two establishments for the production of agricultural implements. The total capital employed is \$62,315,966; paid in wages \$15,499,114; worth of timber used, \$5,791,916; worth of iron and steel \$18,424,052; worth of other material \$7,878,202; total, \$32,094,107. The number of persons employed during the year was 49,180. The total value of all products was \$68,373,086. In 1850 the total product was \$6,842,611. In 1860 it was \$17,487,160. In 1870, \$52,066,875. During the year there were 325,057 cultivators; 131,003 harrows; 280,654 dozen of hoes; 212,147 dozen of shovels; 380,732 dozen of hand rakes; 1,361,443 plows; 211,738 dozen of hay forks; 1,244,264 scythes; 43,717 scythe snaths; mowers 72,000; seed sowers, 20,289. In 1850, 7220 persons were employed; in 1860, 14,814; in 1870, 25,249, and in 1880, 49,180.

THE PERPETUITY OF FAME.—As the name of the immortal Washington has been most sacredly perpetuated as that of a hero and statesman, so also has the fame of Swayne's Ointment for skin diseases descended into perpetuity as the only reliable remedy in the market for every character of skin disorders, and as the reward of well-deserving merit. Worth and merit go hand-in-hand. It is useless to contradict the worth of this article.

THE DAIRY.

Washed and Unwashed Butter.

The difference between washed and unwashed butter is analogous to the difference between clarified and unclarified sugar. The former consists of pure saccharine matter, while the latter though less sweet, has a flavor in addition to that of the pure sugar. When unwashed there is always a little buttermilk adhering to the butter that gives it a peculiar flavor in addition to that of pure butter, which many people like when it is new. Washing removes all this foreign matter and leaves only the taste of the butter pure and simple. Those who prefer the taste of the butter to that of the former ingredients mixed with it, like the washed butter best. The flavor of butter consists of fatty matters, which do not combine with water at all, and therefore cannot be washed away by it. The effect of washing upon the keeping qualities of the butter depends upon the purity of the water used. If the water contains no foreign matter that will affect the butter, it keeps the better for having the buttermilk washed out instead of worked out. Evidently the grain of the butter will be more perfectly preserved, if the buttermilk be removed by careful washing. The grain is such an important factor in the make up of fine butter that it is necessary that we should be very particular not to injure it in any way if he would excel in the art of butter making.—*American Dairyman.*

Cleanse Immediately.

There is a good fraction of the success in butter making dependent on the proper cleaning of dairy utensils. Some appear to think it will do just as well to wait a few hours before the milk pails are washed and scalded; that the churn may stand a half or whole day before being washed and the germs of decay being killed by heat; that the cream pail may be used for several batches of cream before thoroughly cleansing, because sweet cream is going into it again; that the butter worker may stand until you want to use it again before scalding, because it will be then freshly cleansed when you use it, etc.

There is altogether too much of this heedless way of carrying on butter making. The nitrogenous portion of milk (caseine) furnishes just the substance required for ferments, for the development of germs wholly inimical to pure milk or butter. These ferments remain in the crevices of wood or the seams of tin vessels, and unless they are dislodged by immediate cleansing, it requires boiling or steaming for a considerable length of time to dislodge them. Every utensil, after its use, must be immediately cleansed if you wish to prevent taints in your milk, cream or butter. Wooden pails are now discarded from use by the patrons of cheese factories because few can be trusted to properly cleanse them.

If they were immediately subjected to steam heat or boiling water after each use they would be sweet, but this steam or boiling water requires to penetrate every pore. The dairymaid or operator cannot be too prompt in cleansing dairy utensils.—*Chicago Nat. Live Stock Journal.*

Salting Butter.

Butter is usually salted in accordance with the demands of the market to which it is to be sent. American butter is generally salted at the rate of about one ounce to the pound. Perhaps the greater part of the sweet cream butter has half or less than half that quantity. In the south of Europe, indeed all Latin countries, oil is in more general use than butter, and unsalted butter is preferred. The Parisian method of serving butter entirely unsalted is sometimes aped in England and in some of our American cities, but as a rule the markets demand that the butter shall carry more than half an ounce of salt.

Unsalted butter will keep forever—provided it is butter and only butter. But the butter of commerce is never pure. It retains more or less of the properties of the milk, and it is these which, while they add very much to its value, are subject to almost immediate deterioration, and in turn tend to injure the butter itself. Even salt will not long preserve them. Unsalted butter does not "keep." The use of salt in butter is more for flavoring than for preservative purposes. The protection and preservation of butter are due far more to the package than to the salt which is put in it.—*The Dairymen.*

THE APIARY.

How to Make Bee Keeping Pay.

Some five or six years since I determined to make bee keeping pay if possible. I had a fondness for bees and honey. I had never read any work on apiculture, but concluded that there must be some standard works, treating of bee keeping; I began to inquire for such and learned that there was a paper published at Chicago devoted to bees. I immediately wrote a postal card to the editor and received a specimen copy in which the standard works on apiculture were advertised.

I knew I had struck a bonanza for when a man is determined to obtain knowledge upon any subject, just give him access to the standard writings on that subject and he can soon know all that is known or unknown about the business. I subscribed for the bee journals—procured all the latest works on bees and honey, read myself full of the bee theory, went to see all my friends or acquaintances who kept bees and who were supposed to understand scientific bee culture. The idea seemed to prevail with them that everything depended upon having the right kind of a hive—they tried every kind, some had moth traps, and hives with frames were numerous, but never a frame could they move, the combs were crooked and crossed. No one offered to lift out a frame and show me the queen, but I was often invited to take a peep through glass as though it were a great treat to see bees under glass, hence I concluded that if my friends had ever understood scientific bee culture, they had stood still until the wave of progress had gone by and left them twenty years behind. Talk to them about controlling swarming, extracting honey or rearing queens! Oh! that is all humbug, they would say.

I therefore had to rely on my books and papers—making careful selection of the method that seemed most approved of and practiced by the great bee kings who annually made reports of large yields of honey, who had honey to sell by the ton. I studied their ways and endeavored to take lessons of them. I bought an extractor, adopted the Langstroth hive, had comb honey stored in prize sections, packed twelve in a crate and glassed the crate, kept extracted

honey in one and two pound jars in the stores around, and comb in crates and never offered to under sell the market. I ask and get top prices and have learned to keep honey in prime condition (I never ship any in bad order) and I cultivate a home market by trying to keep honey for sale all the year round. Perhaps I might as well say that I have about twice as much extracted honey as comb, and find an increasing demand for it. I recommend all to buy extracted honey.

1st. Because it is cheaper and is sweet as comb honey.

2d. Because I can obtain larger yields of it than of comb honey, and can make more money producing it, and I use it myself all the time.

For several years I have made careful memoranda of the time of blooming of all the plants, trees and flowers on which bees forage and the length of time they last and amount of honey and pollen the bees obtain from each, which enables me to know with reasonable certainty what the bees are doing or can do, according to the state of the weather, and the prevailing forage, either present or prospective. In proof of which I attended to two apiaries away from home this year and had not a single swarm and only visited them once a week, and occasionally at longer intervals. Had I not studied the subject of bee forage I should have been in considerable doubt and uncertainty.

Let no one flatter himself that he can learn bee keeping in a day. Each season imparts new lessons, and it seems as if I were just beginning to know the cause of many things about bees and honey, and I do not hesitate to say I firmly believe that I can make more money out of bees and honey, with a capital of one thousand dollars, than the average farmers do on five times that amount, taking the seasons as they come. But I wish to persuade no one to embark in the business, for I know of no calling that is accessible to so many and at which so few make money.—E. DRANE, in *Bee Keeper's Journal*.

A LOSS PREVENTED—Many lose their beauty from the hair falling or fading. Parker's Hair Balsam supplies necessary nourishment, prevents falling and grayness and is an elegant dressing.

OUR LETTER BOX.

Thanks for the following complimentary letters from some of our old subscribers.

The Hon. W. H. B., of Maryland, writes :

"I herewith enclose my subscription to your valuable agricultural journal for 1883. I wish you much success during the year."

H. P., Esq., of Washington, D. C. says, on renewing his subscription.

"It continues to improve and is an eminently able and practical journal, well adapted to the wants of this region."

I. H., Esq., of S. C., writes on the 4th January, 1883.

"Editors Maryland Farmer.

"Sir—Enclosed find one dollar to pay for your journal one year, can't do without it. It is the wife's close companion. Send on."

Mr. J. N. B., of Charles Town, Md., inclosing his subscription for 1883, on the 25th December, 1882, in unison with the pleasantness of our old time Christmas, gives expression to his timely regard for the editor of the MARYLAND FARMER in the following words :

"* * * indulging the hope that you may yet live many years of uninterrupted happiness and pleasure, and that you may never know misfortune but by name, and that sorrow may be a stranger to your dwelling ;

And when with head reclining
And silvered o'er with age,
Your latest breath resigning
You quit this mortal stage :
May the angelic legions
Your happy soul convey
High to the blissful regions
Of everlasting day.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

"AN ODD STREET SCENE."—He was seen in front of the office rubbing himself against the telegraph post like a flea-bitten dog. "What is wrong?" We ventured to ask. "Gotem, gent," he said laconically, have 'em every spring, small lumps form about the rectum, sore to the touch, they itch like blazes, a telegraph pole's like an oasis in the desert to me." Here then was poor humanity suffering from a complaint which a few applications of Swayne's Ointment for itching piles would have thoroughly eradicated.

Gregg Raspberry.

Cedar Fruit Farm, Jan. 13, 1883.

Messrs. Editors Md. Farmer:

Now that this valuable black raspberry has stood the test of trial throughout almost every part of the country, and has become so cheap that it can be set out in large plantations by the average grower of fruits, it is high time its good qualities were generally known.

It is no doubt the most profitable black raspberry of its season, which is about 6 days later than the Mammoth Cluster. In size it will run nearly twice as large as the last named and is much more vigorous and productive. The fruit is remarkable for its firmness, possessing excellent shipping qualities, superior to any other known black cap. Its chief merit lies in its great value for drying purposes. Three quarts of ripe fruit will make one pound of dried, which usually command very remunerative price.

So easily propagated and so productive is it upon good soil, that it is yet to work its way until large plantations are set out solely for the purpose of drying it for market. Where access to good markets is not to be had, quite as much can be made from the fruit when properly dried, as when sent to the market fresh from the vines. The expense of crates, freight, commission, &c. would also be saved, while the cost of drying will be comparatively small. A drying house, costing not over fifty dollars, would answer for quite a large plantation.

I find by experience in the cultivation of the black cap varieties, that the expense and labor of staking may be done away with, if care is taken to top the growing vines intended for next season's fruit, as soon as they are two or three feet in height. They may be gone over again before spring and the side branches lopped off 18 inches from the main stalk. This leaves them in bush form, easily worked and gathered. This shortening of the main fruit canes gives a stockiness to them which enables them to hold the weight of fruit clear of the ground. If it is desirable to multiply the plants, it may be easily and quickly done by allowing the side branches to grow all they will, until the latter part of August or first of September, when they should have their extreme tips covered with a large hoe full of soil, taking care to put enough to prevent the tip from pressing its

way through and continue running. If this is done in time the tips will be well rooted, ready to be set out by the time cold weather sets in, but spring is the best time to plant out.

R. S. COLE.

Notices by the Press.

Mr. Ezra Whitman's MARYLAND FARMER for January, 1883, is on our table. It is certainly a treat to peruse its well filled pages. The farm and household departments are so complete and interesting that comment from us is unnecessary. The frontispiece is occupied by a steel engraved portrait of ex-Governor Bowie. Then follows an interesting biographical sketch of the ex-Governor, which also includes a very interesting description of his farming operations, racing stables, &c., all tending to make it a number of rare excellence. The subscription price is one dollar a year in advance. Col. W. W. W. Bowie is the associate editor. The publication office is 141 West Pratt Street, Baltimore.—*The Union, Towson, Md.*

MARYLAND FARMER.—This book for the present month contains a very fine picture and a biographical sketch of ex-Governor Oden Bowie, also other beautiful illustrations. The original and selected matter is very instructive. This is a good time to subscribe, the beginning of the new year. Published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore, Md., at the low price of \$1 per annum.—*Examiner, Frederick, Md.*

That old and sterling rural paper, the *Marlboro' Gazette* pays us the following high compliment.

"We imagined our old friend the MARYLAND FARMER had reached the point in improvement where it could go no further, but the January number is the best we have ever seen. The farm and household departments are so complete and interesting that comment from us is unnecessary. The frontispiece is occupied by a steel engraved portrait of ex-Governor Oden Bowie. Then follows an interesting biographical sketch of the ex-Governor which also includes a very interesting description of his farming operations, racing stables, &c., which we publish on our first page this morning. Every planter should take the "Farmer."

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, FEBRUARY 1st, 1883.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One Copy, one year in advance,	\$ 100
Club Rates, 5 copies one year in	
advance	4 00
" 10 "	7 50
" 20 "	14 00
" 50 "	32 50
" 100 "	60 00

Subscription Price for One Year, if not paid in advance, will be at the old rate, \$1 50 per year, and positively no deduction.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1 Year.
One Square, 10 lines.....	\$ 1 5	\$ 4 00	\$ 7 00	\$ 12 00
Quarter Page.....	6 50	15 00	22 50	35 00
Half Page.....	12 00	25 00	40 00	70 00
One Page.....	20 00	45 00	75 00	120 00

Special rates for cover pages.

Transient Advertisements payable in advance.

Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

We call attention to our Reduction in Price of Subscription.

The Maryland Farmer for 1883.

Our second number for the year 1883 and the 20th year of the MARYLAND FARMER. On entering upon our 20th volume, we are glad to congratulate our friends upon the generally increased prosperity of the country, which in all its past history has never been equalled. The seasons have been propitious and the farmers have prospered, but not so much from that circumstance, as we are inclined to believe from their own efforts, mainly induced by reading agricultural journals, like the Maryland Farmer, which gives the science and practical details of those who make farming a study and reduce their acquired knowledge to practical tests. Never was there a time in the history of our long experience as a journalist when we could so confidently appeal for continued support from our subscribers, advertisers and readers as now. The long list of advertisers show how it pays to advertise in our columns, and our increased circulation has enabled us to put our paper at a price so low that the poorest in fortune can obtain it, while we have added to its size, and ornamented it with a large number of illustrations of domestic animals, fowls, and useful implements to show to the reader clearly what intelligent correspondents and others are writing about. We can boast of some admirable correspondents who write for no paper but ours, and whose writings are always read with avidity. Therefore we ask every subscriber to renew his subscription and send along the names of his neighbors who have heretofore failed to avail themselves of this agricultural fountain of solid worth, that has steadily increased in worth and value annually, while it has been enabled to reduce the price of subscription with the valuable premiums to the small sum of \$1.00 for 12 numbers, every number being worth more than treble that sum.

To Our Subscribers.

While we are much gratified with the promptness that most of our friends have manifested by the renewal of their subscription for 1883, we are forced to say that there are others who have not responded to our call, and some of whom are delinquents who have overlooked us for years, yet they have regularly, each month, received the benefit of our hard labors in catering to their substantial interest, instruction and pleasure. To such we beg leave to suggest that "the laborer is worthy of his hire." To those who have been just to us and prompt in payment we return our sincere thanks.

An Exposition in Baltimore.

Is it wanted? Will it be supported by the people? These are important questions and should interest every business man and property holder in the city. How are these questions to be answered, and the public sentiment to be correctly ascertained? During the past year we have heard of meetings being held to elect officers and trustees for the purpose of getting up an Exposition in Baltimore. So far as I have learned these meetings have been small, but embraced some of the most enterprising business men of Baltimore. Officers and trustees were chosen and perhaps by no other method could a better set of men be selected to fill those offices, but it would seem that the whole country, at present, is opposed to the *few ruling the many*, even if they could do the work better, the masses will not give their approval, and it is the masses that must be looked to for the success of a great Exposition of any sort. Now, while every man that has been engaged in this movement has been sincere and worked hard, as he believed for the

true interest of this enterprise and the welfare of Baltimore, may they not have failed to enlist public sympathy and the good will of the people at large?

For many years I have been accustomed to attend large fairs and exhibitions in this country and in Europe, and have learned to appreciate the great value of well conducted exhibitions, and I believe Baltimore is now ready for a grand Exposition—one that would reflect credit upon her, add much to the increasing business of her merchants, and additional prosperity to all her citizens.

Within the past few years I have attended the great Fairs of Cincinnati, St. Louis, Boston, Atlanta, and other places in this country, and have become well satisfied as to their immense value to the city and State in which they were held, and therefore, am decidedly in favor of holding an Exposition in Baltimore this year. Do not let it be put off to 1884. Procrastination is not only the thief of time but is often fatal to individual as well as public enterprises or projects.

There are several facts and circumstances that point to Baltimore as the most favorable city in which to hold a great Exposition this year. The State Agricultural Society will hold a Fair this autumn, and it, beyond a doubt will prove a success and attract a large crowd of people. The Maryland Jockey Club as usual will have their Fall meeting which never fails to draw immense crowds and many strangers from a distance to enjoy the splendid sports at Pimlico. The American Agricultural Association, with its 2,000 members, being distinguished agriculturists from every State in the Union, have determined to hold a National Exhibition in whichever city proffers the best advantages, and that place is to be fixed upon next month, (February) it being well understood that the officers and members of that association prefer Baltimore to any other location, if

proper inducements are held out. Besides, the Cotton Growers Association are knocking at your doors for admission.

Among all these organizations, with our own many industrial associations, surely there must be enterprise enough to concentrate, and with a liberal aid by the people of Baltimore, get up a splendid exhibition. If all the arrangements cannot be perfected this year, let us commence the buildings and we can at least do enough to have a good exhibition, and next year when the whole work in its entirety will have been finished, the cotton growers will come with all the Southern products, to inaugurate the second Exposition of Baltimore, thus we would be fortunate in having in two successive years great National Expositions, and the enterprise placed upon a fair footing as well as proving a profitable investment to stockholders, and resulting in an annual enlargement of the trade of the city.

If this scheme be carried out properly, it will ultimately be of as much value and importance to Baltimore as was the Centennial to Philadelphia or the Cotton Exhibition to Atlanta.

I will repeat what I have before suggested; let some few enterprising men spend two or three hundred dollars, or as much as necessary, in writing up the advantages of an exhibition in Baltimore, and publish in the newspapers of the city; at the same time issue invitations under a proper heading, requesting the public to attend a mass-meeting to be held at the Maryland Institute or some other proper place, to ascertain truly the sentiments of the people for or against such an exhibition, and the extent of the means that could be provided to further the project. Let something be soon definitely decided.

It seems to me that the course advised is the best to insure public interest and harmony, but I am ready to join in any movement that will be likely to accomplish the important end in view of holding a fine Exhibition *this year*, and a grander one in

1884.

W.-

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the American Agricultural Association will be held at the Grand Central Hotel, New York, Wednesday, February 8th, at 12 M.

The annual election of officers and other business will be transacted, including matters connected with a National Exposition this year.

SOUTHERN SALE OF JERSEY CATTLE.—We are in receipt of a circular from our old friend, Col. W. R. Stuart, announcing a sale of thoroughbred and grade stock, to be held in New Orleans during Mardi Gras week. The sale will comprise a large number of thoroughbred registered acclimated Jersey cattle, from southern herds, and a number of the best blood imported from the Island of Jersey. We wish him success and hope that southern breeders of fine stock will generously sustain this enterprise.

OUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—We acknowledge with sincere thanks the several tokens of remembrance we received for the holidays, which came too late to be noticed in our last number. We cannot notice all, but at the risk of being charged with partiality, we must say that the mince pie, cakes, and large jar of preserved damsons, from Mrs. W., of Baltimore, were splendid, while the whole of a Southdown dressed mutton, from our friend Emory, of Eastern Shore, Md., was super-excellent. It was rich, juicy and tender, and just rightly fat. It did credit to the fine pastures of Poplar Grove Farm, and to the skill of this distinguished breeder, as a meat producer, while we did credit to ourselves as consumers of choice meats.

SUDDEN CHANGES of the weather often cause Pulmonary, Bronchial and Asthmatic troubles. BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES will allay the irritation which induces coughing. Sold only in boxes. Price 25 cents.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Improvement.

Improvement in all kinds of live stock is only brought about by persistent and well directed endeavor, and a decided or desirable improvement is only the result of years of hard work, guided by judgment, knowledge and experience.

In improving the quality of live stock, we cannot always tell just what certain results will be from the causes, for the real science of breeding is so imperfectly, and necessarily so, understood. By coupling the animals which seem to possess the merits and qualities which we wish to perpetuate in an intensified form, we can be reasonably sure of getting at least very meritorious offspring, and per contra, very poor stock almost invariably results from the coupling of poor or chance stock. It is when we get well up in the scale of improvement that the real difficulty presents itself, for the material used is then far more sensitive and susceptible alike to good and to bad influences, and great care is necessary to insure the suppression or eradication of the bad qualities and the development or fostering of the good ones. Here it is, where the discriminating powers of the breeder are brought into play and his judgment frequently taxed to the utmost, while pedigree is of great importance on the side of both sire and dam, in giving us an opportunity of judging the inherent good and bad traits.

There are latent forces and qualities, both good and bad, which may lie dormant for two or more generations, and requiring certain favorable influences, (generally embryonic ones,) to develop them for either the good or the loss of the breeder. The higher bred the stock is the more susceptible it becomes, requiring care, judgment and experience not merely to maintain the standard of excellence, but to work any decided or noticeable improvement. In the work of improvement the dam works or yields more of an influence than most breeders will admit, and this is why many breeders fail to improve as rapidly as they should and would, even though they may secure the services of the very best of males. Each (both dam and sire,) have

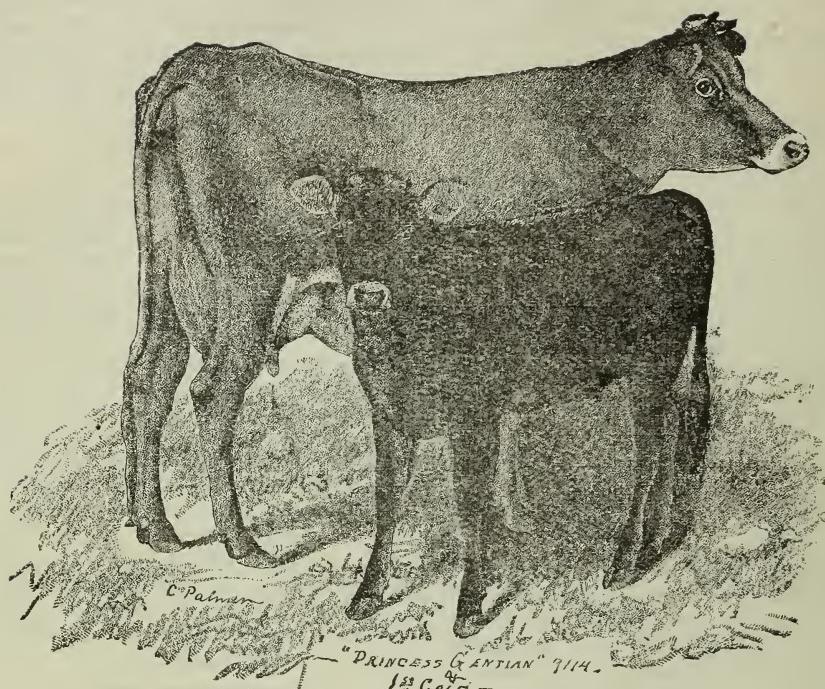
their relative importance, and we are as careful in the selection of the dam as the sire, especially so with pure bred stock which has been bred up to a very high degree of excellence, and we have every reason to feel satisfied with the results of our care in that direction.—E., Jr.

Sheep Farming.

Dairy farming is more difficult and laborious than sheep farming. Sheep culture has many advantages over cattle raising, as also over dairying. There is a necessity of sheep husbandry for meat production. The rapid increase of population, the scarcity and increasing price of beef the inferiority of pork in healthfulness and nutrition, tend to the increase of mutton eating. And it is not the results in the economy of meat and wool alone, we may add, but from an economical standpoint in feeding the soil, no factor in its wealth occupies a more prominent position than sheep. This has been tested and will be found to be most valuable in its application to all the economies of farm establishment and development.—*Mont. Ala. South. Agrl.*

The Cleveland Bay.

This breed takes its name from the district in North Yorkshire, England, and the bay color which predominates among its horses. It was produced by crossing thoroughbred or part bred stallions on the best native mares in the district, and was at one time the most popular breed of coach horses in England. A few of them are being imported to America, and wherever introduced attract unusual attention as a fine type of carriage horses with very superior style and showy action, commanding high appreciation by the experienced horsemen. They are usually about sixteen hands high, of a bright bay color, or sometimes brown, and frequently with black points, they have neat heads, well set on clean and finely curved necks; well rounded bodies, good quarters and excellent legs and feet. As yet they have not been generally introduced into any State and have made but slight impression upon the horse stock of the country. Some stallions of this breed would be a great acquisition to the horse stock of this State, and we hope some of our public spirited horsemen may feel encouraged to introduce them.



PRINCESS GENTIAN, 9114, A. J. C. C. H. R.

This beautiful cow was dropped on June 25th, 1878. Grayish fawn; small white spot at flank; rich yellow skin; handsome head; small crumpled amber horns; flanders escutcheon; color of skin on udder and on inside of ears deep orange; fine shaped udder.

We are indebted to Fred. Von Kopff, Esq., the owner of the STONELEIGH HERD OF JERSEY CATTLE, Govanstown, Baltimore Co., Md., for this illustration. In compliance with our request he furnishes us with the following statement:

"Princess Gentian—sire, Rex; dam, Dido of Middlefield, is an excellent illustration of the truth of the old saying that, 'blood will tell,' for in point of looks and aristocratic elegance, she cannot be excelled and in point of practical worth, her great value is shown by her generous flow of rich, golden milk that is strictly *gilt edge* in its butter yield."

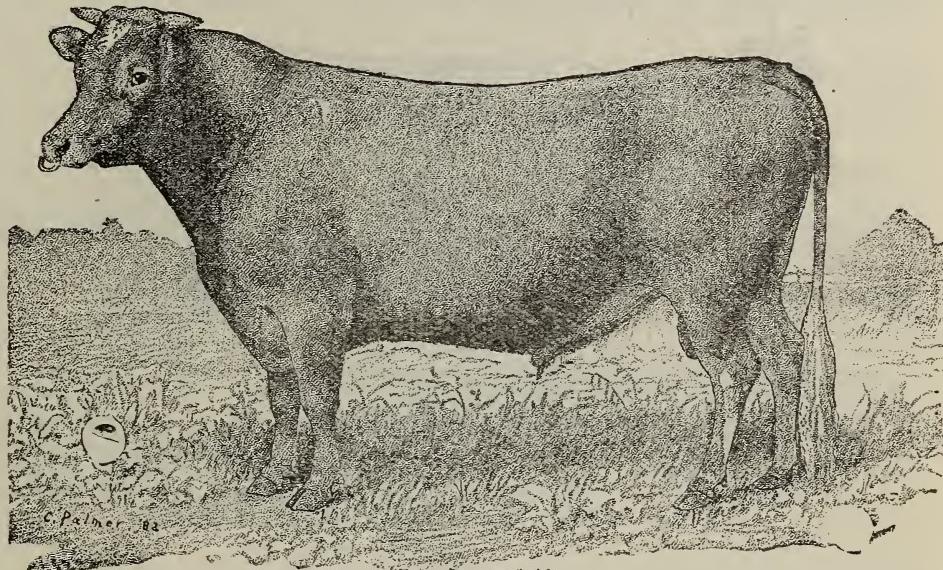
These qualities are strongly imbued in her, partaking as she does of the blood that gave us the great bull, Rex, both through her sire and dam. The following butter records will show that Princess Gentian's reputation has not arisen solely on account of her great beauty, but also on account of her great butter inheritance. Her dam has a record of 2 lbs. of butter a day; her maternal g. dam, 16½ lbs. in 7 days; her paternal g. dam, 71 lbs. in 31 days.

Princess Gentian, although comparatively dry, took second Sweepstakes Prize at Washington County Fair, 1882 for cow of any age or breed. Lady Rex Pansy, daughter of the Princess and now in her 2 year old form, resembles her dam in nearly all points except color; the strong Pansy blood of her sire asserting itself in the rich golden brown of the family. She carried off the highest honors in her class at

Washington County Fair, winning first prize for yearling heifers."

The Stoneleigh Herd consists of over twenty choice Jersey cattle, and is one of the most select herds in that section of Maryland so famous for this butter breed of cattle.

WE are allowed by the owner of the BEVERLY HERD of Guernsey cattle to give a representation of the bull "Earl Barker," who presides over the Guernsey harem for the present. Earl Barker, 181, A. J. C. C.



H. R., dropped May 2nd, 1879, bred by F. C. Havemeyer, Tyrogg's Neck, N. Y. is a golden fawn in color with a little white; white star; with an immense upright escutcheon; extremely yellow skin and horns; long deep carcass; with good barrel; fine silky coat.

Took first prize at the Maryland State and Baltimore County Fairs of 1881, and headed 1st prize herd at each of these fairs; 1st Balto. Co., 1882, and in the prize herd; 1st Washington Co., 1882, and in Herd Sweepstakes at Washington Co. Fair; he is considered by good judges to be equal in quality to any Guernsey bull in the

country. His dam has a butter record of 21 lbs. 3 oz. in 7 days.

To the same gentleman we are indebted for a faithful likeness of his beautiful FAIR LASS, imported, and was bred by Peter Manger, The Forest, Guernsey. She is yellow and white; extremely rich skin and horn; long carcass; Flandrine escutcheon.

Fair Lass took first prize at the Maryland State and Baltimore County Fairs of 1881, and was in the prize herd of each of those fairs, and is the dam of Earl Barker that took 1st, and headed 1st prize herd at

those fairs. Also 1st in her class, Baltimore County Fair, 1882; 1st in her class, Washington County, 1882; in sweepstakes herd at Washington County Fair; in prize herd at Baltimore County Fair.

She has a butter record of 21 lbs. 3 oz. in 7 days, and is a grand breeder, as her offspring in this herd will show.

The Beverly Herd is kept at BEVERLY, the residence of Mr. Watts, about two miles west of the city of Baltimore. The farm is situated on Wilkens Avenue, just west of its intersection with Beechfield Avenue. It is within one mile of the horse cars of the Baltimore and Catonsville rail-

way, and within one mile of St. Agnes station, of the Baltimore and Potomac R. R.

The Windsor herd of *Jersey Cattle* are the property of Messrs. Watts & Seth, and they are to be found at the residence of Mr. Seth, about 3 miles north-west of Baltimore city, where are seen some of the choicest and greatest butter producing cows now in America.

We do not hesitate to say that this day there is a small area of Baltimore county, Md., in which there are more Jersey cattle of the purest blood and highest milking

short as oats, or shorter, and mix with bran shorts or midlings, and feed as other food. Hogs soon learn to like it, and if soaked in swill or other slop food, it is highly relished by them. In winter, use for the hogs the same hay you feed your horses and you will find that, while it saves bran, or other food, it puts on flesh rapidly as anything that can be given them. In summer the use of hay can be commenced as early as the grass will do to cut, and when run through the cutting box, can be used to advantage by simply soaking in fresh water until it sours.—*Nebraska Farmer*.



"FAIR LASSIE 216—

qualities, so far as butter production is concerned, than is to be found in the same limited section of this country, or even in Jersey, the true home of this wonderful butter breed.

In our January number we gave extended remarks about the excellent breed of Guernsey cattle.

HAY FOR SWINE.—Few farmers are aware of the fact that hay is very beneficial to hogs, but it is true nevertheless. Swine need rough food as well as horses, cattle or the human race. To prepare it you should have a cutting box or hay cutter and the greener the better. Cut the hay as

HORSES FEET AND LEGS.—The feet and legs of horses require particular attention. It is an old saying with horsemen, "Keep the feet and legs in order, and the body will take care of itself." The legs are the first to fail. The horse, when brought in from severe, protracted exertion, should be rubbed down dry. His legs, from the knees and hocks down, should be well hand rubbed, so that friction will create insensible perspiration; that will tend to prevent swelled legs, stiff joints, contracted tendons, and sprung knees. When the legs are fevered from overdriving, they should be bandaged with wet cloths, to take away the heat and prevent wldn-galls, that prove eye-sores, and which without diminishing his capacity for labor, materially affect the market value of the horse.—*National Live-stock Journal*.

Sale of Jerseys at Philadelphia, and other Matters.

By our Special Correspondent.

Knowing that there was to be a sale of over one hundred imported Jersey cattle, at Philadelphia, on the 14th, we determined to be present to see what our Maryland breeders were doing. On our way thither we went over the Baltimore Central Railroad, stopping off to see the Avon herd of Jerseys and Guernseys of Mr. Samuel C. Kent and the Greenbank Herd of Messrs. T. M. Harvey & Son, both of which are near the station of West Grove. We shall have more to say of these fine herds in a future issue. We also stopped off at Wawa, to see the Jerseys of Mr. Edward Worth, at the head of which stands the bull Reginas' Gilderoy, whose pedigree is of the most fashionable kind. Here we saw some as fine cows as can be seen anywhere, and the herd is an extremely good one and bears evidence of careful and judicious selection, as well as intelligent management.

At Herkness & Co.'s Bazaar, Philadelphia, on the 18th, were gathered about 300 persons, all of whom seemed buyers. Indeed, the buyers were much more numerous than usual and the anxiety to buy seemed great, showing that instead of the interest in Jerseys flagging it is on the increase. We noticed breeders present who were from Maine to Kentucky, and from Maryland to Indiana; and the 110 animals offered for sale did not seem to fill the demand by probably as many again. They were a fair average lot and prices for adult females ranged from \$250 to \$925, making an average of over \$400, while calves sold as high as \$850. Among those present from Baltimore county, were Messrs. J. G. Clarke, G. S. Watts, Andrew Banks, John E. Phillips, W. H. West, T. Alex. Seth, F. VonKopff, Jno. N. Ripple, Edward Austen, and Henry S. Carroll, most of whom secured one or more specimens, all of which were of the best, showing that our Baltimore breeders are determined to keep up the high standard of their herds. Among the purchases for Maryland, were—

Rolla's Flower 17430, a fine young cow of the Coomassie family, bought by Hon Andrew Banks, for \$830, her heifer calf, a few weeks old, being sold for \$850.

The next in price was cow, Empress 17945. Foundation stock cow of great

beauty, bought by Messrs. Watts & Seth. This cow had the finest shaped udder of any in the sale, and is undoubtedly a grand cow, and it was claimed for her that she had made over $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of butter per day. These gentlemen also bought cow, Dolly 17942, a fine specimen, for \$310, and we heard it remarked on all sides, that considering the quality of the cow, she was the cheapest at the sale. They also bought heifer calf out of "Grey King's Flower 17422," who is half sister (says the catalogue,) to the celebrated Farmer's Glory, the sire of calf being Bute 328, P. S. J. H. B., a son of Mr. John Gill's beautiful cow, Reita, for whom he paid \$1150 about a year ago.

Mr. F. VonKopff bought the fine young cow, Zara 17411, for \$625. This is a cow of exquisite beauty and will be an ornament to the Stoneleigh Herd.

Mr. Edward Austen bought five cows: Dianne 17420, \$340; Angerez's Love 17439, \$460; Crown Duchess 17443, \$425, and calves out of cows "Truly Handsome 17442," \$250 and "Miss Rival 17408," \$250; these were altogether well selected, but the calf out of "Miss Rival" was, in our opinion, the "plum" of the sale, so far as the youngsters were concerned.

Besides our Baltimore friends, we noticed Mr. Adam Magraw of Cecil county and Mr. Charles Newbold of Washington county, the latter of whom purchased the fine young cows "Truly Handsome 17442," a cow well named, and "Noble's Leto" 17-440, \$340, both of which were sent for service to Messrs. Watts & Seth's handsome bull, "Island Valeur," pictured in your columns in the December number. If this cross of "Island Valeur" on such a heifer as "Truly Handsome" does not produce a calf *truly handsome*, then the science of breeding is a failure.

Mr. J. E. Phillips and W. H. West each purchased calves — the former a grand daughter of "Farmers Glory," and the latter a bull calf, a grand son of "Farmers Glory."

On the whole we think these purchases by our Maryland breeders has rather added to than diminished their claim to have the best Jerseys in America.

• • •

"ROUGH ON RATS." — The thing desired found at last. Ask druggists for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, bed-bugs 15c. boxes.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for February.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"Oh! poverty is disconsolate.
Its pains are many, its foes are strong;
The rich man in his jovial cheer
Wishes 'twas Winter through the year;
The poor man 'mid his wants profound,
With all his little children round,
Prays God that winter be not long."

Mary Howitt, the sweet rural poetess and prose writer, never wrote anything more truthful and heart-touching than the above quoted stanza. There are, I fear, few of us who amid our jovial winter cheer, think as we ought to do of the suffering poor. Wealth has not the year round, a season to be compared with winter for social enjoyment and home delights. The luxuriously furnished apartment, the glowing fires and hot air furnace, making light and warmth equal to subdued summer sunshine, and the mildness of ethereal spring, while the outside bracing cold sharpens the appetite to enjoy the luxuries that the winter season alone can furnish, while money sandwiches the tropical fruits and our own summer fruits and flowers.

Winter is a glorious time for the wealthy but terrible for the poor. Let us remember it while we are enjoying ourselves in the cozy parlor, at the loaded table, or riding in a luxurious sleigh to some grand opera performance. Not perhaps one hundred yards from our door is a family of half a dozen starving, shivering children, with a weeping mother, huddling together under ragged covering, without light or fuel, and the younger minds speculating upon the inequality of life's favors, while the fond mother is praying that God would take her and her innocents to his eternal home of bliss and joy. Now I hear some cynic say, "well, they deserved it, the father killed himself with drink, or is living in debauchery, or may be in the penitentiary." Such may be the fact, but do you, Mr. Uncharitable Cynic believe that the mother and little ones are to be blamed or should suffer for the wrong doing of the unfortunate father?

Ye who preach temperance and go about with long faces, berating the sinfulness of over-indulgence in strong drink and demanding of your legislators the severest laws to suppress vice and idleness, extolling charity and your own efforts in the great cause of temperance, as the only means of elevating the human family, do ye, in

your efforts to reform the husband and father, never compassionate the wife and children? "Oh! yes, we do indeed." "How much?" As the Frenchman said when the charity petition was passed around at a splendid banquet, and it passed from hand to hand with the remark, "I am so sorry, it is a pitiable case, *sympathize* much but really cannot at this moment help," "I sympathize \$5.00,"—and turning to his next neighbor, asked, "How much do you sympathize?" It is well to remove, as far as we can, the chief evil or any evil, but while attempting to eradicate the root of evil, do not let the innocent suffer through a mistaken charity or a willfully false philosophy.

What can be expected of children bred up in poverty, squallor, ignorance and utter want, but viciousness, hatred of their fellow-man, contempt for the laws and readiness at any moment to wreak vengeance, as they in their degradation, believe to be rightful upon their fortunate neighbor. It is this want of charity on the part of the rich, that leads to so much crime and breaks the tie of honest fraternity 'that should bind in indissoluble chains the high and the low together. It is the want of a proper fellow feeling between the classes that breeds discontent and leads to communistic ideas—the source from which springs many evils and is undermining the foundations of good government—if that is "*a government of the people by the people.*"

Let us turn our thoughts from the contracted views of fanatical ranting reformers, to the higher, broader and grander scheme of reformation based upon true charity. By deeds and substantial encouragement, to walk in the ways of industry, hope and cheerfulness. "Words are women, deeds are men," or translated, means, "words are weak, deeds are strong," was the motto of the first Lord Proprietor of Maryland. Do not say to the poor widow, or the starving boy or girl, "get work, there is plenty to be found if you would only try to find it;"—but say—"Here, good woman, or little ones, is a small donation from my abundance to help you until I can find a fit place for you, in which you can earn a comfortable living until you can do better, which will be according to your deserts, if you do your best to please your employers and lead pure, upright lives." Such words of encouragement and brotherly kindness would do much to win even erring souls away from sin, while the pecuniary help would enable them at once to begin their life of hopeful reform, and discard all scornful thoughts toward their fellow-man.

Now let us, one and all, during this wintry weather, while we are luxuriating in all the comforts and pleasures of a rich abundance, remember the poor—the sick wife of a disabled workman—the bereaved widow in want—and the illiterate children of poverty. “*Do unto others as we would have them do unto us.*”

For the Maryland Farmer.

Sheep Raising—Chili Clover—White Russian Wheat, &c.

I am anxious to hear from the dear lady friends whose acquaintance was made by the CHATS. I look every month for Mrs. Yeomans, M A G., and others—they come very seldom to Patuxent Planter's receptions. They do not help him entertain, true, he is fully competent and gives us better letters—yet we pine for the ladies.

I want information relative to keeping sheep in orchards. Several years since, I put my sheep in an apple orchard; they ate the fallen fruit and many died. I have never let them in an orchard again, during fruit time.

A gentleman called yesterday to gain information about sheep raising, and said he wished to keep his sheep in his orchards, as they were well set in grass. I told him, I believed apples would kill sheep.

I have a basket near me now, in it, is a lamb with a broken leg; broken just above the foot, I set the fracture, splintered and bound it, I think it will get well. It does not seem to feel any pain and eats heartily. I have the mother sheep milked, and feed the milk to it from an infant's bottle.

All animals of this section are free from disease, and ever have been, except two years ago, epizootic in horses. This is quite a thinly settled district, miles and miles of woodland are for sale by decree of chancery.

Too much land is one of my burdens. When I began farming, I was under the impression that the land was not very fertile, but with proper cultivation it yields well, and takes and holds clover and timothy well. Red top grass seems to be indigenous. I have an old farm that has not been under cultivation for several years, that has taken on a crop of red top, it makes good pasture, as it keeps growing as fast as picked down.

Four years ago, next May, I had some Chili clover and English rye grass seed sown—the Chili clover bloomed the first summer and disappeared the second, leaving the ground to the rye grass, which was green and spread. Stock like it and keep it down close. None of my stock would eat the Chili clover.

Last fall, I sowed a small quantity (7 bus.) of White Russian wheat, it was sown later than my other wheat, (Fultz,) it has excelled in growth and looks so promising, farmers have tried to engage seed if I should wish to sell.

A lady, farming, has rather a harder time than a man. Without the physical strength of a man she has to often stand by and see numb-skulls mar the work. I can't work one bit, so I try to

employ those who can, and generally come out as well as other farmers. I fully believe if I had been a man I should have made a grand farmer.

LADY FARMER.

[We do not think apples will kill sheep, running in the orchard all the time. The danger of keeping sheep in an orchard is to the trees, not to the sheep. The practice is common in several parts of the country, smearing, occasionally, the bodies of the trees with a solution of sheep manure which effectually prevents their gnawing the bark. The ground is kept improved by the droppings of the sheep, while the sheep eat the dropped fruit and effectually destroy thereby many noxious insects found in the fallen fruit. A sudden squall may shake off so many apples that the sheep, if hungry, might surfeit themselves with them, as we have known cows killed by excessive indulgence in this fruit.—EDS MD. FAR.]

Publications Received.

From A L Burt, New York, the “National Standard Dictionary,” containing 40,000 words, and illustrated with 700 wood cuts, with an appendix filled with a great amount of very useful matter. This octavo of 575 pages is a very handy, cheap and reliable lexicton, for daily use in schools, counting rooms, and private libraries, supplying to great extent the place of more elaborate and costly dictionaries. We commend it most favorably to the public.

A new volume on the “State of New York” has just been issued, which should be in the hands of every one interested in the Empire State, also in every public and private library. It embraces historical, descriptive, and statistical notices of cities, towns, villages, industries, and summer resorts in the various parts of the State, together with a complete list of the post-offices, counties; and county towns, lakes, rivers, railroads, &c., illustrating almost every point of interest. No book has yet been published on New York State, so picturesque as this, and contains so much information of a general and practical use. The get-up of the book is all that could be desired. The size is octavo, and it is printed on tinted paper and bound in blue cloth and gold, top edges gilt, and published at the low price of \$1 50. The compiler, editor, and publisher of the book is Henry Kollock, office, 22 Vesey St., New York City.

From the author, an able essay upon “The

Disposition of Color—Markings of Domestic Animals," by Wm. H. Brewer, of New Haven, Conn., professor of agriculture in Yale College.

"Onion Culture," a prize essay; by Landreth & Sons, Phil., Pa., price 25 cents. Every grower of onions should have this practical and instructive work to study and be guided by. Also from this firm, their valuable prize essay on "Celery Culture," price 25 cents.

"The Potato." We have received a pamphlet from the Brown Chemical Co., of this City, giving the history, &c., of the Potato with illustrations of its enemies. This extensive manufacturing company have just added to their list of fertilizers, a special one called "Powell's Potato Producer," \$35.00 per ton. It is prepared as a plant food for the potato, and will be sold in 200 lb. bags at ton price, so as to be tested by the many growers of this indispensable vegetable.

"New Music," from J. C. Johnson, manager of Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, several sheets of new music worth playing and singing. Persons who want good songs, ballads, or music, would do well to correspond with this firm. We were much pleased with the specimen sheets sent to us.

Catalogues Received.

Hiram Sibley & Co.'s Seed Catalogue for 1883. One hundred and sixty pages well illustrated, with wood cuts and beautiful colored prints of vegetables and flowers, with descriptions, and much valuable information in regard to the culture, &c., of plants. Address the firm, at Rochester, N. Y., or Chicago, Ill. This firm has issued also an Almanac for 1883, price 10 cents, which contains much matter valuable to horticulturists and to the general reader. We commend it heartily.

Landreth's Rural Register and Almanac for 1883.

D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., have issued for 1883, a superbly illustrated catalogue with illuminated cover, catalogue, with full descriptions, &c., of various flowers and plants. They give special attention to vegetables of the popular sorts that are used by the masses, such as potatoes, onions, peas, &c., with general directions as to kinds, cultivation, &c. This catalogue

surpasses any European work of like character, and holds a number-one place in the unsurpassed American literature of this class. The old world is far behind the United States in the beauty and real worthiness of the annual catalogues of seeds-men. The catalogues of our seeds-men and nurserymen, like Vick, Ferry, Sibley, and others, have become superior to the older days' illustrated Annuals which were eagerly obtained at any cost as adornments of the centre table of the reception room. Such is the fruit of American enterprise and rivalry.

Illustrated Hand Book for the farm and garden, and catalogue of seeds, &c., from D. K. Bliss & Sons, 34 Barklay street, N. Y., is on our table and as usual is a splendid annual, full of illustrations of flowers, with a colored plate of new ever-blooming Carnations, so bright and beautiful, that the collection well deserves its name 'Shakesperian.' The old-time pinks have ever been favorites, but have, like most flowers, by hybridizing by hand, been wonderfully improved, and these superb flowers, if sown early in the spring, will flower freely the same season.

From Storrs & Harrison, Painesville, Ohio, their catalogue, which is an excellent one, embellished with wood-cuts and colored engravings of the "Golden" Pocklington grape and the "Hansell" raspberry, both taken from life.

Thornburn & Titus, catalogue of seeds for 1883, 158 Chambers street, N. Y., is a credit to the old house of Thorburn, and has a nice colored print of the new tomato, "Livingston's Favorite."

"Manual of Everything for the Garden," by Peter Henderson & Co., Nos. 35 and 37 Cortland street, N. Y. Like its predecessors it is admirable, and full of useful information; well illustrated, mailed free on application.

From the "old reliable," J. J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass., his catalogue for 1883. It offers many new vegetables and is a great contrast in its present appearance to those he issued some years ago which were very unpretentious in appearance. The contrast shows great success.

Dr. Benson's Celery and Chamomile Pills are worth their weight in gold in nervous and sick headache.—Dr. H. H. Schlieter of Baltimore.

Journalistic.

SOUTHERN CULTIVATOR FOR JANUARY.—The January number of this standard agricultural publication is on our table. It is, perhaps ahead of any other number in general interest. Its pages are treated all matters pertaining to the success, comfort and happiness of the farmer. The publishers are doing what nearly all the proprietors of Southern publications have failed to do, namely: employing the best writers in the South to contribute to its columns. And they are thus making the most entertaining agricultural journal ever furnished the Southern people.

THE GAME FISHES OF AMERICA.—The publishers of *The American Angler*, a weekly paper devoted entirely to fishing and fish culture, announce that on and after January 6th, 1883, they will publish from week to week a series of exhaustive essays upon the Game fishes of America. These essays will include a popular and scientific description, structure, coloration, &c. of each fish; their habits and habitat; description of tackle used, and *when, where and how* to catch them, &c., &c. The articles will be written by the best angling authors in America, and the series will treat of all the game fishes of the salt and fresh waters of the continent, and when completed will form a text book for anglers, a great want not filled by any existing publication. *The American Angler* is the only paper of its kind that is published in this country. Its weekly pages are replete with information of special value to the fisherman, and its fishing reports, in season, form a practical guide to the angling tourist. The publication offices are in New York city, at 18-15 Park Row, and the subscription \$3 00 a year. Subscriptions to this excellent paper can be made through the *Maryland Farmer*.

BALTIMORE MANUFACTURERS' RECORD AND THE NEW SOUTH.—Is a large sized, weekly, sixteen page paper, for only \$3.00 per year, published in Baltimore, on nice paper, well printed in clear, bold type and illustrated with admirable wood cuts. R. H. Edmonds, editor and Jesse W. Bigsby, business manager. Being somewhat after the style of the *Scientific American*, it must prove of great value to all interested in manufactures, and the general prosperity of the South as it is now being reconstructed, and on the road to a rapid acquisition of wealth and power.

The January LADIES' FLORAL CABINET (New York,) opens its twelfth year with many things to please our readers, especially those who cultivate flowers in-doors or in the garden. The opening illustration is of the *Russelia Juncea*, and this valued basket plant is commended for more general use. The *Giant Ixia* is another interesting illustration, while the article on Roses, from the pen of F. LANCE, of Quebec, and that on the "Oleander," by C. E. PARRELL, well repay reading. The *Hybrid Anarryllis* is given a large illustration, and studious readers will ponder long over an article entitled "Do Plants Think." Price \$1.25 per year. Subscribe for it.

Montgomery County Farmers' Convention

This annual convention of the farmers of enterprising Montgomery county was held as usual at Sandy Springs, on the 16th of January, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, was well attended, not less than 150 farmers being present.

The convention is representative of four clubs formed for social and general improvement. These clubs are composed, one of elderly men, and dates back to 1845; one is of middle-aged men, one of mature men and another of young men.

The occasion was one of great interest. The several reports, discussions of questions of great agricultural value and all the proceedings were impressive and must result in much good to the progressive welfare of the people of this old county and other sections of the State that may benefit by a close observance of the proceedings of this social and praise-worthy annual gathering of these go-a-head practical farmers.

Hog thistles, wire fences, binders, lime, phosphates, windmills, percherons, surplus corn and manures, claimed attention and prolonged discussion till late in the afternoon. We hope in our next number to be able to give a more extended notice. We much regret that circumstances prevented our intended presence on this pleasant occasion,

POULTRY HOUSE.

The Maryland Poultry and Pigeon Show.

This remarkable exhibition closed a most successful meeting on 26th Dec., 1882, at Raine's Hall, Baltimore, Md.

The hall was admirably arranged for the convenience of visitors to see to the best advantage all the feathered tribe which were present in great variety and numbers, comfortably quartered in beautiful wire cages or coops, on stands covered with white muslin. Messrs. J. C. Long, Jr., of New York, George O. Brown and Charles Becker, of Baltimore, were the judges.

Breeders and importers of fowls were represented by E. A. Smith, of Cherry Valley, Mass.; Evans, of Pa.; Dr. Maple, of New Jersey, of bantam fame, and Dr. Reading, of Lambertsville, same State, had his grand dark Brahma; W. G. Lee, of Washington, had his Leghorns; Mr. C. A. Reid, of Englishtown, N. J., with a great display of Brahma and Cochins; J. B. Lichty, of Pennsylvania, had a fine show of Games; and Mr. Rowe, of Fredericksburg, Va., brought up the rear with his 40 lb. bronze turkeys, big ducks, huge geese and a fine collection of the gallinaceous variety. These were the principal stranger exhibitors.

Maryland was represented chiefly by Messrs. Hoen, Dr. George H. Cairnes, Stirling, of Mount Washington; C. E. Boileau, of Middletown; Irvings, Hooper, Erdman and Pleasants, T. B. Dorsey and Colton. Mr. Dorsey had over 40 coops of superior birds of almost every variety. His breeding pen of B. R. G. Bantams was to us an exquisite sight. The Hon. George Colton, president of the club, exhibited 40 coops of choice fowls of great variety of breeds, ranging from the tiny Bantam to the lordly Brahma. This distinguished gentleman shows his good taste

in his admiration of choice and beautiful poultry, which furnishes not only gratification to the eye, but substantial comfort to his fellow citizens. The exhibits of both the last named breeders did great credit, not only to their skill, but to the State, and added much to the interest of this grand Maryland Poultry Show of 1882.



The gem of the show was the pigeon department, with 427 entries and nearly 800 birds. The exhibitors were numerous and from distant States. We can only mention a few of the largest exhibitors. From outside of the State were Messrs. Westervelt, Haywood & Co., New Jersey; T. S. Armstrong, N. J.; Oscar Seifert, N. J.; D. C. Newell, New York city; Dr. M. Cook, N. Y.; H. V. Crawford, New York city; H. C. Cook, New York city; Geo. W. Bowers, Jersey City, N. J., and Bunting Haskins, Bordentown, N. J., whose famous carriers were noticed in our last number, but whose chief exhibit was a variety of the beautiful Fantails. Maryland was in great force; among the most prominent as to numbers and varieties were Messrs. Geo. Schwinn, F. A. Rommel, W. J. T. White, Geo. H. Wrightson, Henry Lancaster, Jas. G. Leake, Chas. H. Klemm, E. W. Taylor, Wm. Broener, John Abell, Geo. I. Frese, G. L. Golder, Geo. B. Hart, J. H. Lammers, Wm. Hoskins were all

large exhibitors from Maryland, besides Mr. Charles Becker, who eclipsed everybody in Pouters, and Mr. H. F. Whitman with a large display, headed by that beau-Jacobin, Mrs. Langtry, that commanded the special admiration of the throng of lady visitors. We regret that a press of matter prevents a more extended notice of an association so full of enjoyment to the lookers on, and fraught with such untold wealth and pleasure to our people, if they only have the enterprise to avail themselves of the opportunities now offered them.

Winter Food.

As staple food, nothing is better and nothing is so cheap as good Indian corn, and one meal a day may safely be of this grain, either ground or whole. Grinding is of less consequence for poultry than for the larger animals, as every bird carries a complete mill for this purpose, and puts in a new run of stones as often as it can get to the ground. A variety of grain is always acceptable; wheat screenings, buckwheat, oats and rye, the last rather sparingly. Cooked food is highly relished—potatoes or turnips boiled and mashed with Indian meal, scalded and fed warm, especially on frosty mornings. Fowls are very fond of vegetables, eaten raw, and if sugar beets or mangels or turnips are put within reach, they will help themselves. For an appetizer, nothing is better than cabbage or the tops of turnips. Hens never tire of cabbage, and a good supply for winter should always be laid in. Animal food in some shape must be furnished, if you want plenty of eggs. Shore farmers can get fish offal from the markets, clams from the banks, or minnows from the ditches. Skimmed milk is always in order, and meat scraps from fat trying establishments, sold in large cakes, and placed where the hens have free access to them, are excellent food for laying poultry.—*Orange County Farmer.*

The National Agricultural Convention at Washington, D. C.

This convention, called by the U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture, assembled on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., in the library of that Department, and organized by electing the Hon. Geo. B. Loring, President; several Vice-Presidents and other officers.

We were in attendance and found the meeting a large one, composed of eminent scholars and agriculturists. After the appointment of some important committees, the reading of essays followed, among which, Augustine J. Smith, Esq., of Baltimore city, read an eloquent paper upon "The necessity of Agricultural Education." The day's proceedings were highly interesting and instructive. The next day, one hour was occupied by the old United States Agricultural Society, Hon John H. King, President, and Ben. Purley Poore, Esq., Secretary. The Society adopted a resolution authorizing the President and Secretary to confer with other State societies for the purpose of determining the practicability of holding a conjoint fair during the coming season, in some section of the country. The Convention then resumed its session, and a paper on "The Grange; its History, Progress and Purposes," was read by Hon. D. Wyatt Aiken, of South Carolina. A paper on "What Science can teach about Wheat," was read by Prof. Clifford Richardson. This was followed by a discussion, after which the Convention took a recess.

At the afternoon session, papers were read by several gentlemen. The reading of them consumed the whole afternoon. As we are going to press we must defer a more extended notice of this important Congress of American farmers to a future time.

SALE OF A FINE HEIFER.—Mr. G. S. Watts has sold to Dr. R. I. Hampton, of Athens, Ga., the Guernsey heifer Sunbeam 1112, daughter of his cow Safrano, by Earl Barker, the bull illustrated in this number of the Maryland Farmer.

"Your Skin Cure is super excellent. It is fast curing my daughter's ring worm, which had spread all over her body."—Mrs. E. L. D. Merriam, Blue Hill, Mass. Druggists keep it, \$1 per package.

To Correspondents.

We regret exceedingly that the crowded state of our columns this month, have forced us to lay over several very interesting communications, but as each of these will be more appropriate to our next issue and from the value of their contents will keep, so we are the less concerned about our disappointment. Messrs. "W" and "L" and "G" will certainly appear in our March number.

WHAT THE PRINCE GEORGE'S ENQUIRER says of us:—

THE MARYLAND FARMER.—We are in receipt of the January number of this excellent magazine. Among the many interesting articles, we find a long sketch of ex-Governor Bowie, as a farmer, and a full description of his splendid estate of Fairview, in this county, where the Governor raises and trains his race horses. The "Maryland Farmer" is a good agricultural journal and ought to be found in every country home.

WHAT THE HINTON REPUBLICAN, W. VA., says:

We are in receipt of a copy of the **MARYLAND FARMER**, published at Baltimore, by Ezra Whitman, and after a careful perusal of its contents pronounce it good. It is just such a paper as our farmers need, and the investment of one dollar per year in this direction would be of untold benefit to them. No farmer who would progress with the times can afford to be without an agricultural journal. Try this one, which we feel sure will please you.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from active practice, having had placed in his hands by an East Indian Missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections; also a positive and radical cure for general debility and all nervous complaints, after having thoroughly tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, feels it his duty to make it known to his fellows. The recipe, with full particulars, directions for preparation and use, and all necessary advice and instructions for successful treatment at your own home will be received by you by return mail, free of charge, by addressing with stamp, or stamped self-addressed envelope to

Dr. M. E. CASS.

201 York St., Jersey City, N. J.

Contents of February Number.**AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.**

The Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal	33
—E. Whitman	33
Sheep Husbandry in the U. S.—J. C. Stevens	37
The Hog—By F. D. Coburn	37
Meat Resources of Nebraska—J. P. Allen	38
Ensilage and Silos—N. T. Sprague	38
Green Manuring	39
Farm Work for February	39
Garden Work for February	41
For Farm Boys to Learn	41
Curiosities of Recent Inventions	45
Manufacture of Agl. Implements	46
Notices of the Press	49
Editorial Notes	51, 52, 63, 64
An Exposition in Baltimore—W	51

HORTICULTURAL.

Parsnips	42
Value of Sods	42
Value of Willow Wood	43
Potatoes	43
Large Yield of Corn	44
Onions for Insomnia	44
Gregg Raspberry	49

DAIRY.

Washed and Unwashed Butter	46
Cleanse Immediately	46
Salting Butter	47

THE APIARY.

How to Make Bee Keeping Pay	47
OUR LETTER BOX	48

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

Improvement—E. Jr.	53
Sheep Farming	53
The Cleveland Bay	53
"Princess Gentian", Jersey Cow	54
Guernsey Bull "Earl Barker"	55
Guernsey Cow "Fair Lass"	55
Hay for Swine	56
Horses Feet and Legs	56
Sale of Jerseys in Philadelphia	57

POULTRY HOUSE.

The Maryland Poultry and Pigeon Show	62
Winter Food	63

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Jersey Cow "Princess Gentian"	54
Guernsey Bull "Earl Barker"	55
Guernsey Cow "Fair Lass"	56
Jacobin Pigeon "Mrs. Langtry"	62

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for February	58
Letter of a "Lady Farmer"	59

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.**CATALOGUES RECEIVED.****JOURNALISTIC.****DOMESTIC RECIPES.**